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Suharto Running Mate: The IMF's Nightmare?

President Hints at a Backer of State Control

By Paul Blustein Washington Post Service

JAKARTA - President Suharto of Indonesia let it he known Tuesday that he intends to serve a seventh five-year term in office, and in a move that stirred mease among international investors, he hinted that his choice for vice pres-ident is a strong-willed technology minister whose views are anathema to the International Monetary Pund.

The chairman of the ruling Golkar party, Harmoko, said after meeting with party, Harmork, said after meeting with Mr. Suharto that the president 'is ready to be nominated at the People's Consultative Assembly meeting' in March, which will be dominated by supporters of the 76 year-old leader.

Mr. Suharto, who took control over the world's fourth most populous country in 1966 after a military country in 1966 after a military country.

try in 1966 after a military coup, has faced a number of public calls recently for his resignation or retirement as the country's financial crisis has deepened. But Mr. Harmoko said that a poli showed "the majority of the people still

want Suharto to be nominated as president" and that the Mr. Suharto "will accept" their trust in him.

That much was widely expected. But what is causing the Jakarta rumor mills to work overtime is speculation that Mr. Suharto has settled on B. J. Habibie, the minister for research and technology, as his next vice president and presumed

because Mr. Harmoko made public a list of more than a dozen criteria that Mr. Subarto had said his vice president must have, and No. 4 on the list was "an understanding of technological knowledge for the benefit of the national

That would appear to point to Mr. Habibie, 61, whose most controversial moves have involved putting government money into projects that he be-lieved would enable Indonesia to leapfrog past other countries in technological advancement. The best known

See SUHARTO, Page 6



Benjamin Netanyahu, left, and Bill Clinton meeting Tuesday at the White House. An administration official said the Israli leader's cool reception constituted "snub diplomacy."

An Initial Meeting Of Clinton and Netanyahu Yields Little Progress

Comments Indicate Wide Gaps In the U.S. and Israeli Positions; 'A Decision to Go to Peace'

By John F. Harris

WASHINGTON - President Bill Clinton and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel met for nearly two hours in the White House on Tuesday in a session that American officials had promised would include a hlunt statement from Mr. Clinton about his unhappiness over the faltering Mideast peace process.

The meeting appeared to have yielded little progress, but an official in Mr. Netanyahu's entourage said the two leaders would talk again later Tuesday at the White House.

'No agreement has yet been formulated,' Mr. Netanyahu

told Israeli television in an interview granted immediately after his initial talks with Mr. Clinton.

He said there was "clear understanding" that Israel and the United States wanted to find a way to push Israeli-PLO talks toward a final peace settlement. But in comments suggesting wide gaps in the Israeli and American positions on how to open such talks, Mr. Netanyahu described the meening as an attempt for Mr. Clinton to "understand our considerations."

Before the session, Mr. Netanyahu pledged that his government had "made a decision to go to peace" with Palestinians, and expressed confidence that, despite his weak position in the Israeli Parliament, "I can muster the necessary support across the government, across the coalition for something that would move the peace process forward, and maintain secure and defensible boundaries for Israel."

But American officials said prospects seemed dim that Mr. Netanyahu's definition of what would move the process forward were anything close to what the Clinton administration is seeking.

Administration officials said before the meeting that they expected Mr. Netanyahu to present a plan that would have Israel withdraw from less than 10 percent of the West Bank, in exchange for new security assurances from the Palestinian Anthority. Administration officials have said that the with-

Annothy. Administration officials have said that the whindrawal must be more than that to be credible.

Mr. Clinton, returning to the high-profile involvement in the peace process that he avoided for most of 1997, is scheduled to meet with the Palestinian Authority leader, Yasser Arafat, at the White House on Thursday.

Mr. Clintoo denied a reporter's suggestion that he was trying to put "pressure" on Mr. Netanyahu to make more

'I wouldn't use that word," Mr. Clinton said. "Israel has to make its own decisions about security.'

In fact, the visit was filled with suggestions that the pressure was moving in both directions. Upon arriving in Washington on Monday night, Mr. Netanyahu took the United for Israel, a coalition dominated by Christian fundamentalists critical of the administration. His visit here includes a scheduled interview with Pat Robertson of the Chrisoan Broadcasting Network, and meetings with the Moral Majority founder, Jerry Falwell.

Mr. Netanyahn is also scheduled to meet with congressional Republicans criocal of Mr. Clinton's Mideast policy,

See ISRAEL, Page 7



ARAFAT ACCORD — Yasser Arafat at the signing of an investment accord in Paris on Tuesday. Separately, the Holocaust Museum in Washington reversed its snub of the Palestinian leader. Page 7.

Butler Calls Talks in Iraq Toughest Yet

Documentation on Arms Is Still Being Withheld

> By Barbara Crossette New York Times Service

BAGHDAD - In talks that Richard Butler, the chief United Nations weapons inspector, described as the toughest he has had since he took charge of dis-arming Iraq last year, agreement was reached Tuesday on how to begin re-viewing Baghdad's assertions that some weapons had really been eliminated.

But Iraq continues to refuse to provide more documentation to back its contentions, Mr. Butler said in an interview. He called this tactic an attempt

The talks are being held in an atmosphere of heightened tension because of Iraqi threats to expel all arms inspectors within six months if sanctions are not lifted.

The issue of access to suspected weapons sites that are still off-limits to inspectors, including presidential palaces, has been left to a final session. UN officials said that Mr. Butler would make the results of those talks public Wednesday morning before he left Bagh-

dad. He is due to report to the Security
Council in New York on Friday.
On Tuesday, Mr. Butler rejected Iraqi
demands that American U-2 surveillance planes flying over Iraq for the UN be replaced with Russian or possibly French aircraft. He told Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz, who leads the Iraqi delegation, he would look at other aircraft, "But we would look at them to supplement, not replace, the U-2s," he

"It's been pretty tough this time,"
Mr. Butler said of the exchanges in the
talks. "Iraq is pretty angry and wants to
get to the end of the process."
Iraq has been under comprehensive

sanctions that have crippled the econ-omy by barring the sale of oil since Baghdad's invasion of Kuwait in August 1990 and the Gulf War the next year. To have the sanctions lifted, President Saddam Hussein's government must convince Mr. Butler's commission that all its weapons of mass destruction and the means to make more have been eliminated. Arms inspectors are far

from giving Iraq a clean bill of health.

Nevertheless, Mr. Butler said, there are some areas where the Iraqis and the United Nations Special Commission that he heads are close to agreement.

A review of Iraqi records on the special missile warheads built to deliver biological and chemical weapons will begin in two weeks. An evaluation of Iraq's VX nerve gas program follows. The Iraqis want to close the files on both, and Mr.

Butler called them "ripe for study."
In both cases, all five permanent members of the Security Council -Britain, China, France, Russia and the United States — plus Germany will be represented on the technical evaluation teams, Iraqi and UN officials said. This

See IRAQ, Page 7

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Would-Be Human Cloners Are Warned Off with human cloning. He said in an interview that he would have to think about whether to By Rick Weiss

WASHINGTON - The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has decided that it has the authority to regulate human cloning, and agency officials are warning that it would be a violation of federal law to try the procedure without approval.

The declaration confirmed what U.S. officials have hinted at since a Chicago-area scientist announced this month that he would try to clone a person. The officials see human cloning as presenting "serious health and safety issues" for the fetus and the mother

and thus requiring government approval.

Anyone who wants to attempt human cloning must apply to the drug agency, which would then undertake a review, the acting

agency commissioner, Michael Friedman, said in an interview Monday. The agency will take anyone who fails to file that application to court, he said. "Through the Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act we do have the authority to regulate

human cloning, and we are prepared to assert that authority," Mr. Friedman said.

G. Richard Seed, a physicist who has been involved in fertility research since the early 1970s, had declared his intention to proceed

challenge the agency's legal interpretation, or simply move his cloning effort offshore.

"I'm going to have to talk with a lawyer." he said. "I'd have to evaluate on what basis they're saying this - what clause of which

President Bill Clinton hanned the use of federal funds for human cloning research last March, after scientists in Scotland announced they had cloned an adult sheep. But leg-islation to ban privately financed human

See CLONE, Page 15

AGENDA

Drugmakers' Merger Talks Spur Stocks

The Dollar	
Tuesday @ 4 P.M.	previous close
1.8395	1.8333
1.627	1.634
128,495	129.25
6.1575	6.142
The Dow	
Tuesday close	previous close
7873,12	7753.55
	Tuesday @ 4 P.M. 1.8395 1.627 128,495 6.1575 The Dow Tuesday close

Stock prices of some major inter-Tuesday in anticipation of a new round of takeover activity after SmithKline Beecham PLC said it was discussing a possible merger with American Home Products Corp.

The combination, if completed would create the world's largest pharmacentical company and underscore the intensifying pressure for economies of scale in the industry. Other takeover speculation centered on such drugmakers as Zeneca Group PLC and Bristol-Myers Squibb Co. Page 11.



NOT SO FAST - Chancellor Helmut Kohl joking Tuesday with Prime Minister Roman Prodi in Rome. Mr. Kohl was noncommittal on Italy's bid to adopt the single currency, saying there was "no point in philosophizing" before a May 10 summit meeting. Page 7.

Books	Page 10.
Crossword	
Opinion	Pages 8-9.
Sports	Pages 18-19.
The Intermarket	Page 4.

China's Big Challenge: The Jobless Peru and Ecuador Sign Peace Pact The IHT on-line www.iht.com

PC Titans Hook Up With Phone Firms

The Goal: Superfast Internet Service

By Seth Schiesel New York Times Service

NEW YORK - Three titans of the computer industry have joined with most of the largest U.S. local-telephone companies to enable consumers to receive Internet data over regular phone lines at speeds much higher than are currently possible, according to executives involved with the alliance.

Compaq Computer Corp., Intel Corp. and Microsoft Corp. intend to announce the venture next week at a communications conference in Washington, the executives said.

The formation of the group is one of the most significant early moves in what promises to be a long battle between telephone companies and cable-television companies for control of the market for high-speed access to the Internet.

The executives said the three companies, which set much of the agenda in the computer industry, had teamed up with GTE Corp. and with four of the five regional Bell telephone companies to set technical standards for the next generation of Internet access through telephone lines. The group wants to have modems and software based on the

new standards on store shelves by next Christmas, the executives said. If the group succeeds in popularizing the technology, consumers could get data such as World Wide Web pages from the Internet at speeds as much as 30 times those of today's fastest modems. Pages that now take minutes to view would appear on a computer's screen almost instantly. Most important, perhaps, the new moderns would plug into

See NET, Page 15

Unknown Soldier May Soon Be Known

By David Stout

WASHINGTON — Pentagon offi-cials say they are dealing with the possibility that an American killed in Vietnam and interred at the Tomh of the

Unknowns in Arlington National Cemetery might not be unknown at all. They confirmed Monday that they were trying to determine whether the serviceman was Lieutenant Michael Blassie, a decorated U.S. Air Force pilot, whose plane was shot down near An Loc on May 11, 1972. There is a pos-

sibility that the remains will be exhumed

for DNA testing, the Pentagon said.

While conceding Monday that she sure mounting on the Pentagon to find was not sure the Arlington shrine holds the remains of her brother, Lieutenant Blassie's sister Pat said, "The trail leads

to the tomb. The controversy over the Arlington tomh was reported Monday night on CBS. The network said the skeletal remains of an American flier were found on Oct. 31, 1972, along with an identity

card, money and shreds of a flight suit. The remains were at first designated "believed to be" Michael Blassie, the network reported. But the identity card and money disappeared under circumstances never made clear, the report said, and several years later, with presan unknown serviceman from the Vietnam War for interment at the tomb, the

remains were designated unknown.

Ms. Blassie said that her family was notified in 1972 that Lieutenant Blassie. who was 24, had been shot down in flames and was presumed dead. But the family was not notified until about five years ago that an identity tag bearing his name had been found, she said.

A spokesman for the Defense Department office that handles matters pertaining to prisoners of war or servicemen missing in action cautioned

See UNKNOWN, Page 7

When Corporate Morale Flags: Time to Bring On the Cheerleaders

By Mark Leibovich y Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON - Reeling from a nasty run of disappointing earnings, executive departures and dispiriting layoffs, the management of Silicon Graphics Inc. decided it was time to take hard-core, morale-boosting action. So Friday morning they called in the cheerleaders.

Wearing specially designed SGI football jer-seys, employees waved pompons and gyrated in formation. They cried out in rhyme about their company and its products: "Octane, Origin, Onyx, too.
"Silicon Graphics is good for you."

with a yellow goal post, a scoreboard and hleachers. About 340 Washington-area staff of Silicon Graphics gathered to "kick off" the second half of the company's fiscal year with a marathon of motivational speeches, taped marching-band music and first-half Most Valuable Player award presentations.

With the approach of Super Bowl — the annual

extravagant finale of the American professional

football season - it was high time for a high-tech

pep rally, and a motel ballroom in Fairfax, Vir-

ginia, was decked out in full gridiron splendor for

the occasion, carpeted in artificial turf and outfitted

While the Super Bowl has become an entrenched American tradition in sales, social and

advertising circles, its reach oow extends into the corporate motivational arena, according to executives, event planners and management consultants.

It comes at a time when elaborate "themed events" to bolster employees have become a yearround corporate sport. There are motivational Mardi Gras celebrations and sock hops, military simulations and scavenger hunts. The Super Bowl, an annual marriage of success and excess, exists cleanly within this spectrum,

"If there is any event in America that is hype and motivation, it's the Super Bowl," said Michael Bernacchi, a marketing professor at the University of Detroit Mercy who has studied the cultural

makes absolutely perfect sense.

Likewise, it has meant a hlitz of business for jocks-turned-motivational speakers, who have been uniquitous podium fodder of late. Joe Theismann, the former Redskins quarter-

back and current ESPN football analyst, said, "If I weren't working at the Super Bowl. I'd be able to give presentations every day in the two weeks leading up to the game.

He addressed employees at a "pre-game" ban-quet Thursday night. The day before in Atlanta.

See SUPER, Page 15

Layoffs by the Millions Are Sweeping China

ARBIN, China - The chant of the beancurd peddler swirled through the alleys of the derelict Daowai district of Harbin, but on this frigid morning there were no

The cold weather in this city known for its icesculpture festival was not the problem. "Business is bad," the old man said as he inched his cart between gray apartment blocks and half-idle factories. "It used to be that everybody would buy my bean curd," said the man, who gave his name as Yang and who sells small blocks of the high-protein food for 12 cents each, "Now some people can't even

buy this."
"It's because so many factories are closing," he

This is China's industrial heartland, the northeastern region where hig-scale communist industry was born of exuberant idealism in the 1950s and is now flailing for life.

By the design of a government that must drastic-

ally prune thousands of bloated, money-losing state industries, workers are being laid off by the millions all over China. Nowhere are the effects more severe

than in rust-belt northeastern cities like Harbin and Shenyang, where, many experts believe, the unemployment rate exceeds 20 percent.

Just down the street from where the bean-curd peddler spoke is the Harbin No. 1 Toni Factory, which announced recently that at least 2,000 of its 10,000 employees will be laid off in February. One block in the other direction, workers eating lunch outside a giant cable factory said that it was operating at only half its capacity and that one-third of its 10,000 employees had already been laid off.

Whether China's brisk economy can sweep up tens of millions of nowredundant workers in the years ahead may be the country's most explosive social challenge. Already, over the last year, scores of small-scale protests over layoffs.

lost pay and other employment issues have been TTH uncharacteristic frankness, the

government is loudly warning of huge layoffs yet to come. At the same time, it is working frantically to establish safety nets for dislocated workers and starting to build a national welfare system from scratch something that was not needed in the past because government "work units" provided workers with cradic-to-grave security.

For the longer term, in the grand strategy of the economics chief, Deputy Prime Minister Zhu Rongji, China is betting that an expanding service sector, along with trade and private investment, will help employ the next generation. Because they already face such a harsh employment problem.



Many laid-off workers have found new ways to make money - like this barber in Beijing - though often by competing with rural migrants who have streamed into the cities.

ing an especially fearful eye on the economic crisis now engulfing other Asian countries.

At the Daowai wholesale market here, it seems as though almost everyone — the woman selling pig intestines for use as sausage skins, the woman running a corner noodle shop — has been laid off by state-owned companies in the last couple

of years. They are not starving, but they have become resigned to vastly different lives than the proudly secure ones they lost. In Shenyang, 480 kilometers (300 miles) to the south, former factory workers now stand in the streets carrying tools in their hands and signs around

their necks, asking for work. The lucky ones here still get a token salary of perhaps \$24 a month, which is barely enough to provide food. In Shenyang, a national oewspaper reported in December, the average laid-off worker

is receiving \$17 a month. But many people hawking goods in the wholesale market here also said — contravening official policy — that they are receiving no money at all from their old work units. In Harbin, where a million people are listed as employed by state

By Steven Mufson

BEUING - China said Tuesday that

it was ready to begin political talks with

Taiwan without conditions, but Taiwan

greeted the offer with skepticism, saying China had not given up its demand that the self-governing island submit to the 'one-China' principle.

formal political talks as soon as possible," the Foreign Ministry spokesman for China, Shen Guofang, said Tuesday.

We believe there are no pre-conditions

China has said before that it was ready

for negotiations with Taiwan and has

for these talks."

'We hope the two sides can start

companies, no data are publicly available on how many have lost their jobs so far. But only half of the several hundred state companies in the area are now able to pay their employees full wages, said Li Debin, a sociologist and labor expert at the Hatbin Academy of Social Sciences.

Here and around the country, he said, another third of China's 100 million state workers need to be shed

if surviving companies are to pay their own way. "Most of the state industries haven't yet laid off the workers they should, so the problem is still being hidden," Mr. Li said.

UST in the last few weeks, the railroad system announced that it planned to drop 1.1 million workers, a third of its total, over the next three years. The debt-laden textile industry announced that it will lay off I.2 million workers.

Official oews reports balance the bad news with constant reports of successes in worker training and re-employment programs. But critics say these often amount to little more than shell games in which workers are shifted to other improductive jobs, draining other budgets.

The extent of serious suffering is hard to gauge. Many laid-off workers have found new ways to make money - though often by competing with the rural migrants who have streamed into the cities and in jobs without the accustomed security or health and retirement benefits.

cation of the mainland with Taiwan.

Though self governing, Taiwan is re-

"This is something Jiang Zemin al-ways emphasizes," Mr. Sheu added.

The Chinese statement stood in sharp

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Mr. Jiang is president of China.

EU Diplomatic Team Meets Algeria Leaders

22-Hour Visit Over Killings Is Inconclusive

By Charles Trueheart Washington Post Service

PARIS - European diplomats responding to public horror over continuing massacres in Algeria ended a brief, inconclusive visit Tuesday to the North African country. They met with government officials, opposition leaders and independent journalists to hear their assessments of the violence that has plagued Algeria for more than six years and left more than 75,000 civilians dead - more than a thousand since the be-ginning of the holy month of Ramadan.

"We have made progress," said Derek Fanchett, the British secretary of state for foreign affairs, who headed the 22-hour diplomatic visit.

The slayings continued, with reports Tuesday of more than 34 deaths in another spasm of violence.

The government ascribes most of the killing to the Armed Islamic Group, comprising autonomous armies of Muslim militants dedicated to the overthrow of the government and the installation of an Islamic state in this

resource-rich country of 29 million.
Mr. Fatchett cited new avenues of dislogue with the Algerian government. But he noted that one hope of the mission - securing permission for a United Nations inquiry — had been rebuffed.
"We regret this," he said.

He also regretted that the diplomats had not been able to speak to survivors of massacres or to lay a wreath at the graves of victims, and urged the Algerian government to open up the country to independent journalists.

This was was the highest-level for-eign mission to be received by the military-backed government of President Liamine Zeroual, under a cloud for failing to stop the terror and carnage.

The former general's regime has denonnced intensified international expressions of concern about the killing as imacceptable interference in Algerian

Algerian officials, sources said, pressed the European diplomats to track down Muslim militants operating on European soil who are allegedly contributing money and arms to the ter-

rorists in Algeria,
Mr. Farchett led the mission because Britain holds the rotating presidency of the European Union's executive commission. He was accompanied by his counterparts from Luxembourg and Austria, representing immediate past and future commission presidencies.

The three met Tuesday with Prime

Minister Ahmed Ouyahia and Foreign Minister Ahmed Attaf, as well as with leaders of political opposition parties, although not the Islamic Salvation Front, banned nearly six years ago after it nearly won an election to unsent the existing leadership. The election was canceled, setting off the armed struggle.

The diplomats then met with representatives of the four major independ ent newspapers in Algeria, which have taken the lead in reporting the atrocities committed against Algerians that the government has minimized or denied. The European team will report to the Buropean foreign ministers at their

meeting Jan. 26.

Analysts and diplomats in Paris, London, Washington and Algiers said the visit to Algiers was a modest but necessary step in shedding light on a de-teriorating situation and quiering charges of official inaction.

But a secrecy-minded, proudly nationalist regime and a news media op-erating under threats and constraints have further obscured an already com-plex situation. The lack of information has fanned misinformation and rumous about who is doing the killing and why. Other targets of blame for the killings include rival Islamist armies, government security forces, government-armed village militias, independent

warlords and gangsters. Since Algeria gained independence 36 years ago, and until recently, France has set the tone of Western policy toward Algeria, its former colony and the birthplace of 3 million of its citizens.

But France's leverage is constrained by that legacy. Its recent mild state-ments of concern about the killings were harshly rebuked by Algeria's govern-ment — a reminder that in Algeria, as one non-French diplomat put it, the French are condemned to "have everything they do misconstrued."

The spread of terrorism and the threat to Algerian social stability are felt

acutely in France because of the possibility, thus far not reflected in available figures, of an increase in Algerian immigration to France.

"Whoever fails to export stability to Algeria today," said Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel of Germany, who pushed for the European mission to Algiers, "will import instability in the form of big

movements of refugees tomorrow."

Also, U.S and European companies have invested heavily in oil and natural gas refineries in Algeria, Remote and heavily secured, thus far they have not been touched by any of the violence.

Taipei Is Skeptical of Overture From Beijing Interest Rates Up or Down? Interest Rate Policy Will Generate Major Currency Moves. These moves will directly affect the value of

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3,000 workers of an autoparts company in the eastern

Television stations showed outskirts of Bangkok carried out a violent protest late Tuesday, blocking roads and trying to torch a factory in a dispute over bonuses, the police said.

of the workers blocked the Bangna-Trad road about 20 kilometers (12 miles) from Bangkok, caus-ing huge traffic jams in the capital, the police said. The workers began protest-

ing at Summit Auto Parts Co. manding two months' bonus for the Chinese Lunar New Year, which falls on Jan. 28. When the company cited Thailand's ecocomic slump and rejected the demand, the

Thailand is weathering its

ers have been laid off in the BANGKOK - More than manufacturing sector because

indicated substantial flexibility on a contrast to Beijing's attitude toward

footage of many angry workers burning a motorcycle, tearing down a bank's automatic teller machine and trying to storm the factory, which was guarded by more than 300 riot policemen. The police and company

on Tuesday morning after de- torched the company's administrative building and

who began a protest Monday workers became incensed and continued to block a road in Bangkok threatened to burn down the lottery office if their demands worst economic crisis in de- for more lottery tickets to sell

military exercises and test-firing missiles just off Taiwan's coast on the eve of the country's presidential election.

garded by Beijing as part of China. 'One China is not a precondition "Instead of bashing Taipei, now China wants to encourage Taipei to open because it is a fact recognized by both sides," Mr. Shen said. "Both China and a dialogue," said Andrew Yang, general secretary of the Center for Advanced Policy Studies in Taiwan. Taiwan both must recognize that there is Sheu Ke-sheng, vice chairman of the Taiwan cabinet's Mainland Affairs Council, said, 'The so-called one-China principle itself is a precondition.'

Now it is once again an important moment in Taiwanese politics. A series of local elections could solidify the gains of Taiwan's opposition party, the Democratic Progressive Party, which has long advocated formal independence from China. The party is planning to meet by Feb. 14 to re-evaluate its China policy

now that power is within its reach.

TRAVEL UPDATE

EgyptAir to Discount Arabs' Fares

variety of matters, but all within the. Taiwan just under two years ago, when it context of bringing about the reunifitried to intimidate the island by holding tourists as part of efforts to shore up the tourism industry after the massacre Tuesday.

"There will be discounted fares for all Arab visitors, but we still don't have specific figures," an EgyptAir official said.

Operation of the Athens airport landing guidance system was suspended Friday and not restored until Monday because of interference from pirate radio stations. (AP)

The Louvre had 5.1 million visitors last year, 8.5 percent more than in 1996, and exceeded only by the record of 6.16 million in 1994 and 5.14 million in 1990, the management of the Paris museum said.

Phnom Penh is undergoing a face-lift as part of \$5 million project that also involves repair of storm drains and sewers and improvement of street lighting, city officials said. (Reuters)

Thai Factory Workers Stage a Violent Protest

started protesting by blocking central

cades and thousands of work-

representatives were trying to egotiate with the workers. The incident brought back images of a similar protest in 1996 when workers of Sanyo Universal Electric PLC

warehouse in the outskirts of Bangkok. In another incident, more than 3,000 lottery vendors

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THE AMERICAS

Ecuador and Peru on Road to Peace

Countries Sign Agreement Seeking End to Old Dispute Over Border

By Diana Jean Schemo
New York Times Service

RIO DE JANEIRO - Ecuador and Peru, which went to war three years ago over a border dispute, have signed an agreement creating a timetable that they

said would lead to a peace treaty.

Four commissions are to be established to tackle the main areas of contention between the countries. One will deal with the most thorny issue: de-marcation of the border. The other com-missions will focus on matters including

trade and navigation, security and confidence-building measures.

The accord was signed Monday in an atmosphere of friendliness that contrasted sharply with the past belligerence between the two Andean countries.

The brief war between Ecuador and Peru empted in January 1995, around the anniversary of the Rin Protocol, a

1942 peace treaty in which Ecuador, defeated in battle, ceded half of its ter-

Though it signed the treaty, Ecuador has never accepted its terms, and the maps that its schoolchildren are given show Ecuador's borders encroaching far into Peruvian territory.

Speaking before the signing, the Brazilian foreign minister, Luiz Felipe Lampreia, pledged that a Treaty of Free Trade and Navigation, part of the 1942 pact, would finally be put into effect. It would guarantee Ecuador "unrestricted, free, continuous and perpetual" access to the Amazon Basin and the river's northern tributaries, Mr. Lampreia

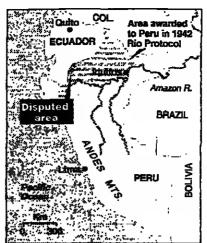
Edgar Teran, the former Ecuadorean nbassador to Washington who is the lead negotiator for his country, said he believed that Monday's agreement, which provides for geographers and legal experts on the commissions to weigh the border claims of each side, would lead to a "final solution of the problems between Ecuador and Peru.

Once their judgments are made, Mr. Teran pledged, the border will "never more be the subject of conflict between he two countrie

Fernando de Trazegnies, the lead ne-gotiator for Peru, said, "It's important that we enter the 21st century with a 21st-century mentality," adding that the two countries faced the "common enemies" of underdevelopment and

The Rio Protocol set the border between Ecuador and Peru and laid ont a host of other elements - nntil now largely ignored - to promote trade and cooperation. The Rio Protocol named Brazil, the United States, Chile and Arorina as guarantor nations.

Now the guarantors are hoping that



economic and development incentives in the border region will give the two sides a common stake in promoting trade instead of border wrangles.

While neither Mr. de Trazegnies nor Mr. Teran would say what specifically led them expect success in negotiations now, other diplomats close to the talks said several favorable elements had

On Eve of Pope's Visit, Church Faults Havana

Prelate Criticizes Limited TV Coverage

By Serge F. Kovaleski and Molly Moore

HAVANA - The Roman Catholic primate of Cuba has criticized the government far allowing only limited coverage by state-run televisinn of the Masses that Pope John Paul II will celehrate bere this week, but he stressed that church officials were largely pleased with preparations for the pontiff's bistoric visit.

Government television has agreed to telecast live only one of the four Masses the Pope will conduct on

his five-day visit here — a Sunday service in Havana's Revolution Dissidents have been warned to Square, which President Fidel Castro and other stay away from government officials are the Pope's Masses. scheduled to attend. But the Communist authorit-

ies have not agreed to a telecast of the Pope's activities Saturday in Sanuago de Cuba, the country's second-largest city, where John Paul II will place a crown on a statue of Cuba's patron saint, the Virgin of Charity.

"In respect to the communications media—no, it is not what we wanted.

Cardinal Jaime Ortega said at a news conference Monday attended by bundreds of local and foreign journalists.

But Cardinal Ortega struck a conciliatory tone toward the Pope's hosts, playing down conflicts between church and state and sidestepping such con-troversial issues as political prisoners and the stifling of political dissent.

"In terms of obstacles that put the

Pope's visit in danger, there haven't been any," the cardinal said. "In terms of the interest of the government, we're als sansfied.

According to several dissidents bere-some local opponents of the government, particularly in the Santa Clara area east of Havana, have been visited by

state security agents and warned to stay away from the Masses. At the same time: large numbers of hard-line government supporters are expected to form a human cordon along the Pope's motorcade routes in Havana and the provinces.

The state is providing hundreds of buses and other vehicles to transport people to the sites of the Pope's appearances and will provide doctors and nurses to accompany the motorcade,

along with Red Cross workers.
Cardinal Ortega, the archbishop of
Havana, asserted repeatedly that the
Pope's rrip would be ecumenical, nor

political, and was part of an effort to increase the numbers of Roman Catholics in Cuba. He said he expected the trip to have a "profound ef-fect on the church" bere that would be "irrevers-

According to organ-izers of the trip, the Pope will be given a red-carpet welcome by Mr. Castro when he arrives in Havana nn Wednesday afternoon. Two children will bear a tray on which will be some Cuban earth, which the Pope will kiss and hless. The pontiff will then briefly address the crowd, as will Mr. Castro.

Communist Party sources in the provinces where the Pope is scheduled to conduct Masses say the government is mobilizing party supporters and the general population to turn out far the visits, much as it does for major political events -- such as the annual celebration of the Cuban revolution on July 26 and international Workers Day marches on

The government announced Monday that people would be allowed to take time of from their jobs and schools and government offices would be closed while the Pope's motorcade passes through Havana and other cities and during the four Masses.

POLITICAL NOTES

Ford Warns His Party **Over Abortion Focus**

RANCHO MIRAGE, California — Former President Gerald Ford has decried what he views as Republicans' preoccupation with abortion and warned that an ''ultraconservative' faction could threaten the party's drive to regain the White House in 2000.

If we get way over on the hard right of the political spectrum," Mr. Ford said, "we will not elect a Republican

Mr. Ford, 84, said he was proud that he and his wife, Betty, were "strongly pro-choice." Abortion, he said, is "an issue that creates significant turmoil in the party and ought not to be a partisan

"But how do you extract it from the arena? I can't tell you. You've got zealots who are determined." (NYT)

Actuaries Ouestion Medicare Proposal

perts say they doubt that President Bill Clinton's proposal to open Medicare to people 55 to 64 years old would pay for itself, because, they say, sicker and cost-lier patients would be the ones most likely to sign up for the new coverage.

Mr. Clinton says the new beneficiar-ies would pay the entire cost, so that there would be no need for federal subsidies, no risk to the Medicare trust fund and no cost to current beneficiaries.

But Robert Myers, who was chief actuary of the Social Security Administration for 23 years; William Bluhm, vice president of the American Academy of Actuaries, and Julia Philips, health correct for the Misseasure. a health actuary for the Minnesota insurance commissioner, said they doubted that the plan would pay for itself at the premium rates proposed. (NYT)

Quote/Unquote

Hillary Rodham Clinton, on the surreptitious photographs taken of the Clintons during their New Year's vacation in the Virgin Islands and the speculation that some — showing them dancing on the beach — had been staged: "Well. I have one question for anyone who would say that: Name me any 50-yearold woman who would knowingly pose in ber bathing suit, especially with her back pointed toward the camera."

Mrs. Clinton also warned that "baving cameras around all the time and slinking through hushes" to capture private moments chilled public life, saying: "The public person becomes more and more on guard, less real, more hollowed out. And you don't see the person that you originally saw because there's a higger barrier.

Hillary Clinton Shrugs Off Jones Harassment Scandal

By James Bennet New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — Hillary Rodham Clinton says that she and President Bill Clinton had "not really" been affected by publicity surrounding Paula Corbin es's sexual misconduct accusations, and she suggested that the case was

Responding to an interviewer's question that recalled Mr. Clinton's com-

U.S. Targets **Doctors Who** Defaulted

The Associated Press WASHINGTON --- More than 1,400 doctors and other health-care workers who defaulted on student loans will no longer be reimbursed for treating Medicare and Medicaid patieots.

"They must pay up or lose out,"
Donna Shalala, the secretary of health
and human services, said Tuesday.
The names of the 1,402 defaulters
were posted on the Internet on Tuesday

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and will be published in the Federal Register. They include physicians, dentists, podiatrists, psychologists and health-care administrators, the majority of whom work in California, Florida, Georgia, New York, Pennsylvania or Texas. The largest group of practitioo-

ers on the list is chiropractors.

The defaulters owe more than \$107 million, or an average of \$76,000 each. After collection attempts failed, the government, which guaranteed the loans, had to repay the banks and other financial institutions that had lent the money, said Dr. Claude Earl Fox, acting administrator of the Health Resources and Services Administration, which

oversees the loan program.

Dr. Fox said each of the defaulters had been contacted repeatedly for at least three years and had been reported to credit bureans and the Internal Revenue Service, which can withhold income-tax

ment last week that he put the case "in a little box," Mrs. Clinton said, "We do box it off. You have 10 box it off because there's no way that you can let people with their own agendas, whatever they might be, interfere with your life, your private life, or your duties. And that's what my husband does every day."

Mr. Clinton would not respond to questions about the case Monday, citing an order issued by Judge Susan Webber Wright of the U.S. District Court to limit cussion of the case.

"You know, the judge asked us not to talk about it, and I think at least somebody involved in it ought to follow ber instructions," Mr. Clinton said.

instructions," Mr. Clinton said.

Asked if she thought that the people supporting Mrs. Jones's legal efforts had "an agenda," Mrs. Clinton said that she would not comment on the case.

But she added, "I think that, certainly, when you see the kind of political maneuvering that goes on against my husband on a daily basis, there certainly are a lot of agendas out there."

Mrs. Clinton made those comments.

Mrs. Clinton made those comments, in a relaxed but serious tone, during an

18-minute radio interview at the White House with Mutual-NBC Radio, which provided a partial transcript. Saturday, with Mrs. Jones in the room, Mr. Clinton was deposed for six hours by her lawyers. Mrs. Jones ac-

cuses Mr. Clinton, when he was gov-ernor of Arkansas, of exposing himself in a hotel room and requesting oral sex. In another radio interview, with CBS News Radio, Mrs. Clinton said that Sat-

urday "wasn't difficult."
"It was a husy day for me," she said,
"I had a lot of work that had piled np, and I had been fighting a cold for about a week, so I just kind of hunkered down and went through a lot of my household

When Mr. Clinton returned home, she said, they "watched a movie and then had a good time" that evening.

Sunday, a visit by the Clintons to church "built us up again," Mrs. Clinton told Mutual-NBC.

They returned home and cleaned closets, she said, calling it "a way in which we try to keep our lives as normal as possible despite what's going on around us."

Mrs. Clinton said that she and the president were resilient because of their upbringings, religions faith and "love and support for each other.



ICE DUTY - Soldiers removing high-tension electrical wire near Sainte Julie, two weeks after an ice storm savaged Quebec.

Away From **Politics**

 Bowing to public pressure, a West Virginia county rescinded what op-ponents had called one of the nation's toughest smoking bans. The Monongalia County Board of Health voted, 3 to 1, to revoke a regulation that would have prohibited smoking in hars and other areas. (AP) in hars and other areas.

• A 19-year-old university student was arrested and booked on snspicion of murder and attempted murder after a man was sbot and killed and three children were wounded in an attack during a march in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, to bonor the Reverend Martin Luther King Jr. The police said that the suspect and the man who was killed had been involved in a dispute and that there was no racial motive.

• The countdown began at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida for the launching of the space shuttle Endeavour. The shuttle is scheduled to hlast off at 9:28 P.M. on Thursday and rendezvous with the Russian station Mir for replacement of the American in the Mir crew.

 Jury selection began in Minneapolis on a suir by the state of Minnesota and the health insurer Blue Cross and Blue Shield, which are seeking \$1.75 hillion from the tobacco industry. There were no signs an out-of court settlement would be

• Carl Perkins Dies, **Rockabilly Pioneer**

By Jon Pareles
New York Times Service

NEW YORK - Carl Perguitarist who wrote "Blue Suede Shoes," died Monday after a series of etroles. Jackson, Tennessee, where he lived. He was 65 years old.

Mr. Perkins was part of the Sun Records roster that fused blues, country, rhythm and blues, gospel and teenage at-titudes into rockabilly, a robe: hine suede sboes. He cornerstone of rock and roll.

was never far removed from just under Mr. Presley's his roots in the rural South. His guitar playing was enor-mously influential, particularly on George Harrison and the Beatles

cropper. At age 6, he began dios, where they sang his working in the fields. An songs. They later released older field hand taught him "Matchbox" and, from other hlues guitar, and he taught his sessions, "Honey Don't" older brother, James Buck and "Everybody's Trying to (Jay) Perkins, to accompany Be My Baby.

Be My Baby.

Back in the United States, him on thythm guitar. They both dropped out of school to

group on bass.

songs, and the brothers began performing at honky-tonks. As he honed his music, he also took np drinking.

dition with Sam Phillips, the owner of Sun Records, Elvis Presley's label. His first single, the up-tempo "Movie

opening act and had a second regional hit with "Gone Gone Gone." Johnny Cash suggested one day that Mr. Perkins write a song about a new item in the teenage wardwrote the lyrics on a paper bar, and on Dec. 19, 1955, Working in Memphis bar, and on Dec. 19, 1955, alongside Elvis Presley, Jerry Lee Lewis and Johnny Cash, Mr. Perkins made music that board Hot 100 singles chart,

Hearthreak Hntel. Touring England with Chuck Berry for the first time in 1964, Mr. Perkins found a new audience. His fans in-He was born io Tiptonville, cluded the Beatles, who in-Tennessee, the son of a share-vited him to Abbey Road Sm-

he toured the country circuit help support the family. A younger brother, Lloyd Johnny Cash's opening act. In 1968, after one of his worst disclosed by the decided to and spent almost a decade as drinking binges, he decided to a founder of the Jewish set-At 14, Carl started writing sober up. He started a new band with his sons. He also sued Sun Records, receiving some back royalties and regaining control of his pub-



Peter Diamand, 84,

Music Administrator

PARIS (IHT) - Peter Diamand, 84, former director of the Holland and Edinburgh music festivals and artistic adviser to the Orchestre de Paris since 1976, died Friday in Doetinchem, the Netherlands.

Mr. Diamand was born in Berlin, but fled with his family to the Netherlands in 1933. From 1934 to 1939 he was private secretary to the planist Artur Schnabel. He was a co-founder of the

Holland Festival immediately after World War II, and its general manager from 1948 to 1965, when he became director of the Edinburgh Fes-tival, a post he held until 1978. Mr. Diamand also was general director of the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra in London from 1978 to 1981. Zevulun Hammer, 62, the

Israeli education minister and tlement movement in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, died Tuesday of cancer. For a decade he had led the National Religious Party, a hard-line partner in the ruling coalition.

Mexico Court Upholds Release of 5 Suspects

New York Times Service
MEXICO CITY — An appeals tribunal has admonished a judge who described a that the men were scapegoats murder defendant as a "mod-, who had been beaten by the ern Robin Hood," but nobeld police to make them confess. ber decision to free the man and four fellow suspects, wbo prosecutors say admitted

killing a U.S. executive.

The ruling on Jan. 1 by Judge Maria Claudia Cam-puzano in Mexico City prompted expressions of out-rage from the U.S. Embassy as well as from the capital's new district attorney.

The case grew into a confrontation between prosecutors, under pressure to impose order during a wave of violent crime, and judges who say they must release defendants whose rights are violated.

The appellate magistrates declined to explain their reasoning in detail. But Magistrate Salvador Avalos Sandoval and lead to confused interpre-said Monday, "There were tations," said Magistrate several discrepancies in the Maurilio Dominguez Cruz.

The judge had argued that the contradictions suggested

was Peter Zarate, a broker with a New York real estate firm who was working in Mexico City. On Dec. 15, he was seized by five men, driven to several cash machines in a fruitless attempt to withdraw his savings, and shot to

Although the magistrates' decision vindicated the judge's ruling, it was accompanied by an unusual admonition to her to draft future rulings with more discretion.
We have urged Maria

Claudia Campuzano to abstain in the future from using extralegal symbolism or metaphors that may be ambiguous

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In Germany, a Formal Burial for Anti-NATO Past

By John Vinocur International Herald Tribune

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BERLÍN — Here was a small event meant to serve as a milestone. The Social Democratic Party of Germany brought together the secretary-general of NATO, a former chancellor, its Bundestag floor leader, its parliamentary foreign policy spokesman and the U.S. ambassador this week to discuss the following theme at a public symposium: What are we doing

for our relationship with America?" As if the point were not quite clear enough, the question had this subtext The Euro-Atlantic relationship, pillar

of our foreign policy." Less than eight months from national elections the Social Democrats believe they can win, the intent could not be clearer. The party took aim at a domesno audience and tried to say again, with a few nuances, that it has undergone a conversion, definitively endorsing the mainstream of Atlantic alliance viewpoints. Rudolf Scharping, the Bundestag

leader, said that the party had abandoned the "kicking and shouting" of what be acknowledged to be its "unrealistic" foreign policy positions of the previous

Social Democrats Go Public on Conversion

troops to peacekeeping operations, op-position to the Allied position in the Gulf War, and an obvious eagerness to find the United States at fault for virtually everything virtually everywhere.

As if they were character witnesses accompanying him, Mr. Scharping was flanked by Javier Solana, secretary-general of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, and Helmnt Schmidt, the last ocial Democratic chancellor Mr. Schmidt's 1992 downfall was precipitated by the refusal of the leftist mainstream of the party to give strong back-ing to its Atlanticist wing's support for

deploying the missiles. Why bad the party chosen now to hold the symposium with its determinedly pro-American premise, Mr. Schmidt was asked. They do it because it's

necessary." he said adding: "It should have happened 30 years ago."

In fact, there were considerable shades of meaning in the conference's decades.

Although Mr. Scharping did not enumerate them, he was clearly referring to egation, as opposed to the national party the party's resistance to stationing cruise organization. Karsten Voigt, the party's the depth of the party's commitments on thanks,"

and Pershing missiles, its legitimizing parliamentary foreign policy leader, and embrace of Soviet and East German a man instrumental in changing the initiatives, refusal to commit German party's viewpoint, acknowledged that

the process was still a fluid one.

It's formally the party line," he said, "but whether it's also the party's mood
that takes time."

The turnabout appears to have been fully accepted by Gerhard Schroeder. the Lower Saxony premier, who opinion polls say would beat Chancellor Helmut Kohl in the September election. Mr. Schroeder, once a fervent opponent of the missile deployment and the Gulf War, now has said that he supports U.S. policy toward Iraq and that nothing would change in the quality of Ger-many's present relationship with the United States, or in 95 percent of the country's current foreign policy, if he were chancellor.

The situation would be rather less clear were Oskar Lafootaine, chairman of the Social Democrats, to win the nomination. He bas not made the same kind of public commitment, and his long career has etary situation, although Europe would been played out at a conscious distance accept neither the existence of the workfrom NATO and American policy.

tried to clear np one question relating to

foreign policy by insisting that it would offer no compromises or facit understandings on security matters to the Greens or the far-left Party of Democrane Socialism in order to form a governing coalition.

"There cannot be any lack of clarity," he said. "Clarity must dominate, we woo't huckle oo that issue. We cannot sustain the confidence of Europe or our allies without it."

Rather than specific answers to its thematic question, the symposium offered a general response that Germany and Europe could do the most for their relationship with the United States through a willingness to assume new responsibilities, although Mr. Scharping took the opportunity to point to an Amer-

ican teodency towards unilateralism.
What the United States must understand, Mr. Schmidt said, was that Germany's dominating interest would be in the construction of the European Union and that Americans must respect this "historic and geostrategic oecessity."

America and Europe together, he went on, could bring order to the global moning poor oor using shareholder value as a To the extent that he could. Mr. Voigt justification for all economic activity. "We owe the Americans great

Oskar Lafontaine, right, the leader of the Social Democratic Party, and Gerhard Schroeder, the party's popular premier of Lower Saxony.

pean Union is — it needs American help."

The Americans should be proud."

John Kornblum, the U.S. ambassador,

shouldn't forget it. The Americans he added of the EU. "It's a result, to a degree, of farsighted U.S. policy. shooldn's forget how unique the Europraised the conference as an anempt by the party "to define itself."

NATO Is on Alert For Serb Defiance

Moderate's Victory Raises Tension

By R. Jeffrey Smith

PALE, Bosnia-Herzegovi-- NATO troops have beefed up surveillance and patrols here and in the Serbiandeterrent to the possible destruction of government documents or other defiant actions opposing the moderate who they might take. was elected Sunday as the leader of their Parliament.

Armored vehicles manned controlled by hard-liners loyal to the Bosnian Serbs' war- the Serbs. Mr. Westendorp zic. The troops bad orders to for bringing to power "a govwatch for suspicious activities, but found nothing alarming, a spokesman for the North Atlantic Treaty Organization said Monday.

Extra U.S. Broods were also deployed in Bijeljina, wbere Milorad Dodik was elected Sunday as head of the Parliament in the Bosnian Serb Republic, formally ending years of control by hard-liners who oppose implementation of the 1995 peace ac-cord for Bosnia. They encountered nothing unusual.

UN officials appealed for calm and said they hoped that the Serb Republic's capital could be transferred smoothly from Pale to Banja Luka, a stronghold of the Serbs' moderate. Western-backed pres-Dodik ordered. But privately, Dodik attempts to consolidate portion of the republic, where gion.

Mrs. Playsic has her power base, and the eastern portion,

controlled by Mr. Karadzic. They will not let this go without a fight," a UN official said Monday. The acting head of Mr. Karadzic's party, Aldominated city of Bijeljina as a exa Buha, said Sunday that the membership would not respect any decisions by the new Parliament, but he gave by bard-line Bosnian Serbs no indication what other steps Carlos Westendorp, the top

foreign official in Bosnia, called on the Serbian hard-Italian soldiers were liners to end their walkout arked outside the Finance from Parliament, which began Ministry and the Interior after they read speeches de-Ministry in Pale, which are nonneing Mr. Dodik as a tool of the West who bad betrayed time leader, Radovan Karad- also hailed Sunday's election erament that promises at last to work for lasting peace and prosperity. 11.-

> blamed the republic's mounting economic woes on ised to accelerate privatization of the economy.

Mr. Dodik also pledged to end censorship and to sep-arate the government from the Serbian Orthodox Church, long a bastion of sup-

important step be takes," ident, Biljana Plavsic, as Mr. officials noted that he was elected to his oew post by a they said that some trouble razor-thin majority and may his power and take control of trouble ensuring their implepolice forces in the western mentation in the eastern re-



Prime Minister Lionel Jospin addressing the National Assembly on Tuesday.

Jospin Hopes to Calm Jobless

the jobless for a raise in min-

Lionel Jospin will appear on television Wednesday to try to calm down a campaign by fits.

arty said I besday

rulers and pledged strict im-plementation of the Dayton ular news program at 8 P.M. Even if benefits were to peace accord. He also prom-on the private channel TF1. Find the cash?" he asked. Even if benefits were to raised by just 3 to 4 billi Mr. Ayrant said he did not francs, as reported by one jobs. **Jospin Admits**

imum unemployment benethe jobless for higher benefits . Claude Estier, the Socialist their protests; Mr. Estier said. In a speech to Parliament and to promote his drive to cut leader in the Senate, said that over the weekend, Mr. Dodik the workweek to 35 bours, his raising minimum benefits by near-record 12.4 percent of L500 francs (\$250), as de-

think Mr. Jospin would make newspaper Tuesday, there PARIS - Prime Minister a gesture to meet demands by would be no guarantee that jobless activists who have been demonstrating since mid-December would end

> on, Mr. the working t

Pope Rebuffed in Germany

His Call on Abortion Counseling Is Widely Rejected

HANNOVER, Germany — A call by Pope John Paul II for Roman Catholics to stop working at abortion counseling centers in Germany was roundly rejected in government circles Tuesday.

The Pope sent an apostolic lener last week to German bishops, asking them to change what had been their generally favorable atutude toward letting Roman Catholics work in the centers, the newspaper Hannoversche Allgemeine reported.

Although the contents of the letter have not been made public, the newspaper cited senior church officials as having said that the Pope had called on Catholics to stop working at the

They are a necessary step in getting an abortion in Germany, and the Pope does not want Catholics to take part in a process lead-ing to abortion, the Hannoversche Allgemeine

Spokesmen from across the political spectrum said the church would be failing in its role if it abandoned those who were in need, in this case women.

To abandon women facing abortion 'would be inhuman and unjustifiable," said Maria Eichhorn, chairman of the parliamentary family committee of the governing co-

Her response was ecboed by the opposition Social Democrats, The bead of the Socialists in manded by the jobless activ- Jospin says that bringing women's questions, Christel Hanewinckel, "needless spite, nonsense and egoism" by the previous rulers and pledged strict implementation of the Dayton will a news program at 8 P.M.

"needless spite, nonsense the National Assembly, Jean-find the cash?" he asked to priority of his government. He also says that cutting the workweek to 35 bours

ists, would cost 60 million down the jobless rate is the said in Bonn that if Catholics ceased to work between liberal former East German laws and of the centers, this would be "a betrayal of more restrictive former West German statutes women who seek belp and of the Catholic between liberal former East German laws and in the centers, this would be "a betrayal of more restrictive former West German statutes women who seek belp and of the Catholic between liberal former East German laws and the National Assembly, Jean-find the cash would be "a between liberal former East German laws and the National Assembly, Jean-find the cash would be "a between liberal former East German laws and the National Assembly, Jean-find the cash would be "a between liberal former East German laws and the National Assembly, Jean-find the cash would be "a between liberal former East German laws and the National Assembly, Jean-find the cash would be "a between liberal former East German laws and the National Assembly, Jean-find the cash would be "a between liberal former East German laws and the cash would be "a between liberal former East German laws and the cash would be "a between liberal former East German laws and the cash would be "a between liberal former East German laws and the cash would be "a between liberal former East German laws and the cash would be "a between liberal former East German laws and the cash would be "a between liberal former East German laws and the cash would be "a between liberal former East German laws and the cash would be "a between liberal former East German laws and the cash would be "a between liberal former East German laws and the cash would be "a between liberal former East German laws and the cash wo

has a letter showing that she has visited a counseling center.

A majority in the German church favors a Catholic presence in the centers, arguing that it provides an opportunity to persuade women against terminating their pregnancies. The church runs 260 of the 1,600 centers.

The speaker of the lower house of Parliament, Rita Suessmuth, a meniber of Chancellor Helmut Kohl's Christian Democratic

A withdrawal would be 'a betraval of women who seek help and of the Catholic church's duty to provide spiritual aid.

Union and berself a Catholic, called Tuesday on the church not to pull out of the public counseling system.

Until now, the courch has taken part in this conflict for women" over whether to abort, she said. "If the church withdraws, its battle will be over but not that of women. Most German bishops want the church to remain active in the counseling system.

There is, however, tension in the government over abortion. Chancellor Kohl's family nister. Claudia Nolte, thinks current le islation — a compromise reached in 1995

raised by just 3 to 4 billion from 39 hours will help create Abortion can be carried out in Germany in trans, as reported by one jobs (AFP, Reuters) the first 12 weeks of pregnancy if the woman percent from 1995 to 1996, to 130,899.

'A Mistake' port for Serbian hard-liners. On Remarks This could be the most U.S. diplomat said. But other

PARIS - Prime Minister Lionel Jospin apologized to the French National Aswas likely to erupt as Mr. encounter resistance to these sembly on Tuesday for acideas in Parliament or have cusing rightists of taking the wrong side in the century-old Dreyfus affair and favoring slavery 150 years agn.

'My mistake was to have lumped together the past and the present," the Socialist leader said. "This was not my intention, and I am sorry.

The accusations, made a week ago during question time in the assembly, caused pandemonium and led to a mass walkout by conservative members.

'In politics, one must adintellectual rigor and a sense of democratic debate," Mr. Jospin told the assembly at question time.
"This is what I have done,

and what I am doing," be

came in the wake of criticism of the United States for refusing to sign the Ottawa Treaty banning anti-personnel land mines last month. The president says that the United States shares the mit a mistake if one has some treaty's goals, but needs to keep its I million land mines buried in South Korea as a guard against invasion from the North.

Clinton Seeks Ban on the Export of Land Mines Reuters the treaty. The weapons are that has been resisted by the wide ban on the export of Senate confirmation hear-

Bill Clinton urged the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva on Tuesday to negotiate a worldwide han on the export of land mines.

In a speech read by the U.S. ambassador-designate to the forum, Robert Grey, Mr. Clinton also proposed negotiations to halt production of plutonium and highly enriched uranium, the fissile material for nuclear bombs. Mr. Clinton's remarks

China and Russia also declined to join the more, than 120 countries that approved

on Disarmament, sponsored by the United Nations, opened its 1998 session steps in the nuclear disarm- tions in nuclear arms and the Tuesday amid calls for on- amost process and banning Ottawa Convention, we will gotiations on both land mines anti-personnel land mines take important steps on the and bomb material after a from the face of the earth. year of impasse. The impasse

people a year. In his statement, Mr. Clin-The 61-member Confer- ton said: "I pledge the full In his statement, Mr. Clinsupport of the United States clude these accords, compledelegation in taking the next menting deep bilateral reduc-

conference can promptly conroad to a world that is free of nuclear weapons and safe for evant states, to play its role in

Mr. Clinton added, "If the ings The UN secretary-general,

Kofi Annan, in a message to the talks, called for negotiations to translate the Ottawa Convention into a global ban.

ference, comprising all relachieving the desired goal of ensuring universal adherence

BRIEFLY

Berlusconi Aide Is Protected

ROME - Legislators voted Tuesday not to allow the arrest of a parliamentary deputy who is a top aide of Silvio Berlusconi, the former prime minister, Italian news agencies reported.

Prosecutors in Milan suspect Cesare Previti, the deputy, of corrupting judges in Rome with a slush fund allegedly set op by Mr. Berlusconi. Five months ago, they asked for Mr. Previu's arrest because they asserted there was a danger he could tamper with evidence.

But the chamber's justice commission this month recommended voting against lifting immunity of the deputy, who represents Mr. Berlusconi's Forza Italia conservative party. The vote Tuesday was 341 against lifting immunity. 248 in favor and 21 abstentions. (AP)

Turkish Islamists Make Offer

ANKARA - Turkey's Islamists have offered to ease their opposition to Prime Minister Mesnt Yilmaz's coalition in an effort to water down a court ban on the Welfare Party, government members of Parliament said

Tuesday They said they would change the tactics they have used until now: That is, they won't block Parliament and present motion after motion to impede the passage of laws," said Ugur Aksoz, a senior member of Mr. Yilmaz's Motherland Party.

A court banned the Welfare Party on Friday on charges

that it threatened the secularist constitution. (Reuters)

4 From U.S. Jailed as Neo-Nazis

STOCKHOLM --- A Swedish court has sentenced four Americans to a month in jail for making Nazi salntes during a rock concert near Stockholm this month, a court

official said Tuesday.

He said that Eric Dobbs, Andrew Miokovic, Danielle Reda and Lee Sugg were among a group of 20 foreigners and almost 300 Swedes who were arrested for shouting racist and neo-Nazi slogans during the concert on Jan. 4. The other foreigners were released (Reuters)

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"No issues are more imstems from a demand by the portant today to this body's children to tread." Mr. Grey, who was named nonaligned nations to start work than a cutoff of fissile talks aimed at the elimination material production for nu-of nuclear weapons, a move clear explosives and a world-Clinton in October, returns to Mr. Annan said.

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THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

'Modest but Steady,' Secretary Says, Warning on High Expectations

BEUING — Winding up u visit to China, the U.S. defense secretary, William Cohen, cautioned Tuesday against overblown expectations of a much warmer military relationship between the two countries and said his visit had achieved "modest but steady" pro-

"Too often we have tried to accelerate our relations and we've had a spike in expectations and then a deep level of resentment when they don't bear out," Mr. Cohen said.

On the final day of his three-day visit, Mr. Cohen said he had received confirmation from President Jiang Zemin that Beijing had stopped all transfers of anti-ship cruise missiles to Iran and would not help Tehran upgrade the missiles it now has.

The piedge was one of several steps forward, including a tour by Mr. Cohen of a furmerly secret air defense base in Beijing and the signing of a naval pact aimed at avoiding clashes between U.S. and Chinese warships.

"Differences remain over Taiwan, human rights and other issues, but we have a framework that allows" both countries' armed forces "to work together productively when we can and to disagree peacefully when we cannot,'

At a news conference, the secretary also said that he had built trust with Defense Minister Chi Haotian and that the two had agreed to gradually "deepen, broaden and advance our military contacts."

Such contacts began in the 1980s but were stopped after the Chinese Army's bloody crackdown on protesters in

Beijing in 1989.
Ties were also strained in March 1996 when U.S. aircraft carrier groups steamed toward Taiwan as the Chinese military conducted exercises that were designed to intimidate voters on the

island. Mr. Cohen's visit to China was part of a swing through Asia and continued later Tuesday with a visit to Japan.

He hailed his tour of the Air Defense Command Center in Beijing on Monday as a sign that China was ready to be more open and share more informa-

He said that the United States and China would continue to exchange visits of military leaders, encourage port visits by their navies and discuss how their armed forces could conduct joint humanitarian operations,

On a key security dispute - Chinese transfers of cruise missiles to Iran -Mr. Cohen said Beijing had halted the

"That was very significant from my point of view," Mr. Cohen said of what he terroed assurances given by Mr. Jiang

during a 65-minute meeting. "It was the very clear message that no sales will go forward, no transfers period — to Iran," the American said.

"That would include those missiles that have been contracted for before.'

Later, his aides said Mr. Jiang did not explicitly state his government's policy on the missile sales to Iran.

The aides said Mr. Cohen had told Mr. Jiang that Defense Minister Chi told him on Monday that China would stop all exports of cruise missiles to Iran. Mr. Jiang did not disagree, and Mr. Cohen interpreted that as confirmation of Mr. Chi's statement, the aides said.

Washington believes Iran has obtained from 100 to 200 of the missiles over the last four to seven years and fears that they could be used against U.S. warships or other shipping in the

Mr. Chi also raised Beijing's objec-tion to U.S. arms sales to Taiwan, which China regards as a rebel province. Mr. Cohen said he had reaffirmed the

U.S. commitment to accords recognizing Taiwan as a part of China, but told his Chinese counterpart that "arms sales that go to Taiwan are purely defensive in nature and they will remain

China was studying Mr. Cohen's pro-posal for exchanges between the U.S. Strategic Command and China's Second Artillery, the military units that control the countries' nuclear arsenals, to reduce the chance of accidents, the

After he arrived in Tokyo, Mr. Cohen met with Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto at his official residence. He also held talks with Japan's defense and foreign ministers.

agreed to enhance recently revised guidelines on military cooperation be-tween the United States and Japan. They also agreed on the need to curtail the U.S. military presence in Oki-

The U.S. Embassy said the two sides

Cohen aides said the secretary gave Mr. Hashimoto a summary of his dis-



Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto of Japan, right, holding telks in Tokyo on Tuesday with William Cohen, the U.S. secretary of defense.

cussions in Beijing and a review of his weeklong tour of Southeast Asia, where the region's economic crisis was a dominant topic. The trip will end in South

On Wednesday, Mr. Cohen is to deliver a sendoff speech to sailors aboard the aircraft carrier Independence, which is scheduled to sail for the Gulf this (Remers, AP)

men and soldiers would be deployed to

safeguard the mass exodus of Jakarta residents before Eid ul-Fitr and to en-

sure security during the Eid and Chinese

home villages across the vast ar-chipelago to celebrate the Eid festival,

which marks the end of the fasting

month of Ramadan in mainly Muslim

Indonesia. Travelers jam bus and train

stations in the capital at least one week

while Eid ul-Fitr begins the next day.

had been informed that officials of

Jakana's Public Order Office would

crack down on anyone violating a ban'

on public celebrations of Chinese New

Year in the city following recent dis-

The Chinese minority in Indonesia is

deeply resented for its dominance of

private business, and political analysts

have said that ethnic Chinese could be

targeted as the country's debilitating

In East Java, some store owners have

pasted signs on their doors that say

"Muslims," apparently in an attempt to distinguish their premises from those

A presidential decree issued in 1967

ruled Chinese New Year to not be a

Buddhist holiday, barring celebrations

at Buddhist temples. Most Indonesian-Chinese are Buddhist.

economic problems take hold.

owned by Chinese.

The Chinese New Year starts Jan. 28,

Colonel Nachrowi said the military

before the celebrations.

Millions of people return to their

New Year.

turbances

wounding a man from Massachusetts who was in the car.

Military police on motorcycles and in a truck wounded a 31-yearold Cambodian-American. Van Mony, when they fired at the U.S. Embassy car, the security chief of the military police said.

BRIEFLY

Cambodians Shoot

At U.S. Embassy Car

PHNOM PENH — Military po-lice fired two shots Tuesday into a U.S. Embassy vehicle while trying

to arrest a suspect in Phnom Penh,

Another Cambodian-American in the car, Sun Chandera, 30, also from Massachusetts, and the driver. a U.S. Embessy employee, were not burt, the police said.

Police officers had gone to a hotel to arrest Mr. Sun Chandara for fraud when he and Mr. Van Mony cluded them and jumped into the embassy

car that was waiting for them.

The driver refused to stop and the police gave chase, the security chief said. (Reuters)

Sonia Gandhi Tries Her Hindi

NEW DELHI - Eager to establish that she is part of India, the Italian-born widow of the former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi addressed voters Tuesday in Hindi -India's national language — as she campaigned for the Congress (I)

Party.
"I consider myself to be a daughter of India and have come here in that capacity," news agen-cies quoted Sonia Gandhi as telling a cheering crowd in the central state of Madhya Pradesh.

For the Record

China, criticized for its human rights record, has asked Mary Robinson, the top UN official in the field, to visit.

Leaders of the parties to the secessionist conflict on Papua New Guinea's Bougainville island held their first day of peace talks in New Zealand (Renters)

President Fidel ordered security tightened around all Philippine government offices and oil facilities as the military freed the chief of the Communist rebels suspected of attacking two oil offices.

SUHARTO: Presumed Running Mate Is Statist Whose Views Are Anathema to the IMF

Continued from Page 1

is a venture to create an Indonesian aerospace industry by building passenger planes.

His penchant for industrial policy has exasperated free-market economists at such institutions as the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, which has criticized Jakarta for pouring resources into ambitious industrial proj-

ects instead of such goals as education.
Only last week, the IMF demanded and won - Mr. Suharto's reluctant agreement to terminate government subsidies for Mr. Habibie's airplane project as part of a package of economic re-forms. The Fund is leading a \$43 billion international bailout of Indonesia.

Accordingly, foreign analysts and diplomats were thunderstruck at the idea that Mr. Suharto, right after seeking the IMF's blessing, would take a step that appears to amount to a thumb in the eve

of the Fund and the financial markets. "I don't know what planet he's on," Hoare Govett Asia, who spent many years in Indonesia. "If the IMF is good at anything — and I'm not convinced it is — it would be getting countries to scale back on government involvement in the economy. And yet the person be seems poised to choose to run the comtry is the most statist person in the government. If true, we're set for a real

Although the Jakarta stock market's benchmark index rose 2 percent Monday, the rupish continued to hover around its record low against the dollar. The currency's plunge has left many Indonesian companies mable to pay their foreign debts because they must now marshal much more rupiah to make principal or interest payments in other

The dollar rose to 10,150 rupiah Tuesday, against 9,600 in Jakarta on Monday and its finish last week at 8,450.

A Western diplomat here cautioned ainst drawing any firm conclusions about Mr. Suharto's preference for a

"We will know when he tells us," the diplomat said. "It's literally that simple, and until then, it's all speculation." The diplomat recounted how several

years ago, Mr. Suharto told his cabinet that he wanted to help them make a difficult decision, so he invited them to his house for a traditional Javanese puppet performance. Afterward, he turned said Engene Galbraith, group head of research in Hong Kong at ABN-AMRO message had become clear — leaving the befuddled ministers to sort out what

"I'm just saying he's very difficult to read sometimes," the diplomat said. But, he conceded, "all this has cer-tainly moved Habibie's stock up," and an Indonesian political scientist said Mr. Suharto had telegraphed his support

for Mr. Habibie fairly clearly. March. Mr. Habibie has an engineering de-

gree and enjoys deriding economists as lacking understanding of how the world works. Last year, he put forward what he called a "zigzag" theory of economics in which he argued that high

interest rates would generate inflation. That argument runs counter to conventional economic theory, which holds that monetary anthorities should drive interest rates higher as a remedy for containing inflationary pressures building in the economy.

Security Increased in Jakarta

Indonesia will increase security in Jakarta ahead of the Muslim Eid ul-Fitt festival and enforce tough measures to prevent public celebrations of the Chinese New Year, Reuters reported.

"We are ready to boost security, and . we are ready to deal with disturbances such as riots," a military spokesman for the capital, Lieutenant Colonel Nachrowi, said Tuesday.

"We are ready to secure the capital during the Chinese New Year and Eid ul-Fitr." Colonel Nachrowi said.

The plans follow a series of attacks on shops in East Java last week after price increases resulting from the country's economic crisis and after small antigovernment protests in Jakarta.

Military officials have said they will not tolerate any disruption of stability during the economic difficulties and ahead of the presidential election in

Police officials said 14,000 police-

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See Pages 4 & 18

HER VLDRY

INTERNATIONAL

In a Change of Tone, Khatami Denounces U.S. 'Oppression' of Iranians

By Elaine Sciolino New York Times Service

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Some Gandhi

Tries Her Hindi

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FOR MORE

THE RESTRICT

in the file

TEHRAN - In surprisingly barsh tones, President Mohammed Khatami of Iran has criticized the United States for, he charged, oppressing the people of Iran, and vowed that they would never be enslaved again.

Mr. Khatami's attack on the United States came in the middle of a televised hourlong ser-mon delivered to thousands gathered at the tomb of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, the founder of Iran's revolution, who died in 1989.

The crowds were gathered in a poor neighborhood in sonthern Tehran to pray through the night on the eve of one of the boliest days of Shiite Islam: the day marking the death of Ali, the son-in-law of the prophet Mohammed.

It was not the time to be nice to America. Khatami said. "But we will not give up our revolutionary principles. This glory was not

gained easily, so it will not be given no easily. We have had enemies both before and after the revolution, the ones who damaged our freedom, independence, interests and glory. And most of this damage came from America's oppressive

The crowd interrupted him by chanting

'Death to America'' several times. Mr. Khatami's remarks were sharply different in tone from his recent public statements. At a news conference in December, he expressed respect for the American people and called the U.S. government its legitimate representative. And in

'We are not at war with the world," Mr. cultural exchanges, although he said there was no need for policial des.

In that interview, Mr. Khatami also tried to explain the Iranian ritual cry of "Death to America" as a criticism not of the American people but of misguided policymakers.

In both the news conference and the interview, Mr. Khatami was reaching out in an American audience, and perhaps trying to elicit a positive gesture from Washington as well. But no gesture

Instead, Mr. Khatami, a cleric, has come under fire by a number of Iranian commentators who have mounted a campaign against him. They disparaged as signs of softness and distortions of the truth his remarks that the seizure of the U.S.

American flag and his praise for the founders of the United States

And in a sermon charged with rage last Friday, Ayatollah Sayed Ali Khamenei, Iran's spiritual leader and the highest authority in the country, ruled out any dialogue with the United States, hranding the country "the enemy of the Iranian

Mr. Khamenei also denied suggestions from abroad and in the Iranian press that Mr. Khatami's remarks signaled that Iran may be moving toward a rapprochement with the United States, calling it "tricky propaganda" designed to destroy the unity of iran's revolution.

Mr. Khatami has often stated that it is Mr. Khamenei who has more authority in Iran. And in an interview this month with CNN, be called for Embassy in 1979 "hurt" the American people, his sermon Monday night, Mr. Khatami may

a dialogue with the American people through his disagreement with the ritual burning of the bave been trying to signal that whatever his cultural exchanges, although he said there was no American flag and his praise for the founders of personal views the unity of Iran's Islamic republic comes first.

Both before and after the revolution. American politicians acted toward the world as if they

were the masters," he said. At another point, be said U.S. legislation that demands punitive sanctions on foreign compa-

nies that invest heavily in Iran proved that the United States wants in impose its will not only on.

Iran, but also nn Europe and Asia. "They want to impose their own domestic law

on the world," he said. "The world will not inlerate a master any more - not only will we not tolerate a master, neither will the world. The embargo has led America into isolation. America's poliocians are betraying the American people.

Outcry Forces U.S. Museum To Reverse Its Snub of Arafat

By Barton Gellman

WASHINGTON - The U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, faced with a rebellion on its governing board and what one official described as "a public ontery" against a decision to snnb the Palestinian leader, Yasser Arafat, has reversed itself and will invite the former guerrilla chief to a VIP tour escorted by the museum's two top-ranking officials.

When I make a mistake, I'm big enough to admit I made a mistake, Miles Lerman, chairman of the Holo-canst Memorial Council, said in a tele-phone interview Monday. "The buck stops at my desk. I am the chairman."

He added, "The more I think about it,

the more I think the visit of Arafat to this museum will serve a good purpose for

Ruth Mandel, vice chairman of the museum's board, said she and Mr. Lerman would "take him around personally" if Mr. Arafat was still willing to make the trip. Diplomatic sources said talks were under way to arrange the

The president of the Palestinian Anthority is to meet President Bill Clinton on Thursday, and museum officials said they were trying to arrange a tour for the

Aaron Miller, deputy to the State Department's special Middle East coordinpartment's special Middle East coordin-ator, Dennis Ross. They are both mem-that many Italians had been boping for. in May." bers of the museum board and they intermediaries, to make the visit.

But sources at the museum said members of the American Jewish community warned Mr. Lerman and the museum's director, Walter Reich, that Mr. Arafat should not be welcomed to the memorial to Hitler's victims.

Associates said they were stunned and distressed that a gesture of reconciliation and understanding had been rebuffed.

Secretary of State Madeleine Albright said on NBC's "Meet the Press" that it was "too bad" Mr. Arafat had been turned away, adding: "It would have been appropriate to have him treated as a Other administration officials, in private telephone calls to the federally funded memorial, made their displeas-

Mrs. Mandel, saying she was very angry that she had not been consulted last week, said Mr. Lerman told her he "got some had advice, went against his instincts and acted in a way he now

He considers what earlier happened a mistake and we're doing what we can to turn this around," said Mrs. Mandel, a professor at Rutgers University and director of its Eagleton Institute of Pol-

Mr. Reich, who was described by Mrs. Mandel and two other associates of Mr. Lerman's as the main opponent of Mr. Arafat's visit, stressed that "there has been no reversal of policy."

But he said Mr. Arafat "is an official guest of the U.S. government and of the president and as such should be accorded every possible courtesy, in my judg-ment, and with all the dignity due to an

official guest."
Mr. Reich emphasized that the museum would not receive the Palestinian leader as a head of state, a formality that generally involves the laying of a wreath in the Hall of Remembrance, where an eternal flame memorializes Hitler's vic-

Mrs. Mandel, asked about that proviso, replied, "I don't think we're going to make a lot of fine distinctions at this

Whether Mr. Arafat will accept the overture is anknown.

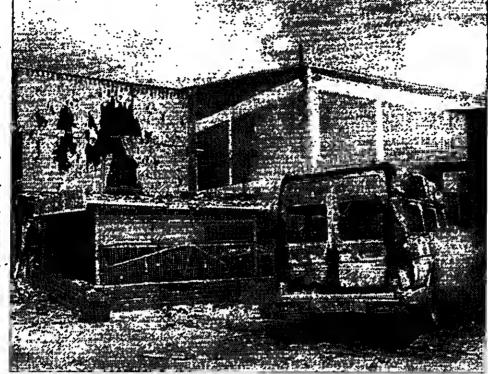
Ahmed Abdel Rahman, director general of Mr. Arafat's executive office, asked in a telephone interview from Gaza City: "Who will invite him? Will they tell him in public?"

He added: "I don't think he will say no. It depends on the invitation. If it is official, and they will respect him, there was unlikely to become the open battle sought by Mr. Netanyahn's domestic

will be no problem." Thomas Buergenthal, a law professor at George Washington University and a member of the museum board's executive committee, said the initial rebuff

was "a surpid decision." "I'm one of the youngest survivors of Auschwitz, and I just don't want to be part of this decision," be said before Mr.

erman's announcement. Other officials said the museum, and Mr. Lerman, had been flooded with telephone calls and faxes, many of them from Holocaust survivors, urging that Mr. Arafat be given a chance to learn at cut a deal with the Palestinians and is engaging in too many provocative acts first hand about one of the defining events of Jewish history.



A shopping center and a vehicle burning Tuesday in a Harare suburb hit by rioting.

 ${f IRAQ}$: Butler Calls Talk's the Toughest Yet

Troops Deployed in Harare Rioting

HARARE, Zimbabwe — Army troops ready to shoot "trouble causers" were sent to the Zimbabwean capital on Tuesday, the second straight day of rioting over increased food prices.

It was the first time troops were deployed to control unrest since the country, formerly called Rhodesia, gained its independence in 1980.

They have not been trained to use hatons like the police," said the home affairs minister, Dumiso Dabengwa. "They will not besitate to shoot any trouble causers." He said the army had been put on a countrywide alert in case rioting spread from Harare in other urban centers. There have been no reports of unrest outside the capital.

"We have been left with no other choice than to hring in the army," Mr. Dabengwa said.

The unrest that began Monday and continued Tuesday was the second emption of rioting in Zimbabwe in recent months, showing a growing hostility toward the government of President Robert Mugabe.

Mr. Mugabe, who has ruled Zimbabwe since independence, has been accused of heading an autocratic, corrupt administration that is driving the country toward economic ruin.

Government officials and their cronies have benefited from land programs that are supposed to help poor hlacks. A pension plan for former guerrilla fighters was riddled with corruption, leading to increasingly bitter protests by the war veterans until the government agreed

last year to pay them more than 4 hillion Zimbabwe dollars (\$222 million) in a budget-hreaking move. In the rioting this week, the police fired tear gas and live ammunicon at people who looted shops and stoned vehicles in central Harare and some of its suburbs.

On Tuesday, thousands of people fled the city center, fearing new violence. Military helicopters circled averhead and most businesses in central Harare were locked up by midmorning.

The day before, demonstrators and police battled in the city center, with hundreds of people left choking and retching from tear gas. One man was seen bleeding beavily from shouting wounds to his legs.

The police have released no information on the

number of people who have been hurt or arrested. Most bus services were suspended and taxi vans ran limited routes, preventing many workers from reaching

The protests were sparked by a 21 percent increase Monday in the price of corn meal, following increases of more than 25 percent on most essential goods and foods in the first two weeks of 1998.

On Monday night, the government ordered milling companies to scrap the corn meal price rise. Commerce Minister Nathan Shamuyarira said the government found no justification for the price increase.

Business leaders have hlamed the price increases on government policies that also are cited as the reason for a 50 percent decline of the Zimbabwe dollar against the

BRIEFLY

Archbishop Seeks

African Debt Relief

ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia --

given to celehrate the millennium.

Archhishop George Carey told 500

representatives of the Organization

"Have the moral courage to take

Kohl Declines to 'Philosophize' on Italy's EMU Bid

By Alan Friedman ional Herald Tribune

ROME — Chancellor Helmut Kohl ended a meeting with his Italian counterpart here Tuesday night noting that European Union finance ministers had praised Italy's efforts to qualify for European Monetary Union. But he re-The idea for the visit came from

Rome's deficit reduction efforts, Mr. but there is no point in philosophizing now." At a joint news conference with Prime Minister Romano Prodi, Mr. Kohl launching of the single currency from a friendship. But Mr. Kohl, who opinion poll in Germany that showed more than 70 percent against the introduction of the committed to introducing a new and launching of the single currency from a euro, Mr. Kohl expressed his optimism

Continued from Page 1

goes some way toward meeting lraqi demands for "balance" — or fewer

Some UN officials say they fear that

the Iraqis are trying to outflank the dis-

armament commission diplomatically,

hoping that Russian, Chinese and per-

haps French experts - all from coun-

tries with commercial interests that

White House Meeting

Continued from Page 1

including the House speaker, Newt Gin-

gricb, Republican of Georgia, and the

chairman of the Senate Foreign Rela-

tions Committee, Jesse Helms, Repub-

Barron Gellman of The Washington

Having declined to find time for Mr.

Netanyahn in November, even as their

aircraft parked nose to tail at Los Angeles International Airport, Mr. Clin-

ton is continuing what one administra-

oon official described as a deniable but

Tuesday's schedule includes no hreak-

ing of bread, no visit to Blair House, where high-level foreign visitors often

stay, and no joint public appearance.
"We're treating him like the president of Bulgaria," the official said.

Then he added that Mr. Clinton would

Mr. Netanyahu, for his part, made his

go jogging with the president of Bul-

feelings known in a private meeting with

the Jewish philanthropist Edgar Bron-

"Don't you know," he told Mr. Bron-fman, summarizing Mr. Clinton's at-titude, "there's Saddam Hussein of the

West, and there's me, Saddam Hussein

But for all their mutual displeasure,

senior aides to both men said the visit

and international foes. Mr. Clinton, his

advisers said, intended to probe and prod

Mr. Netanyahu. Mr. Netanyahu, ar-

mored with a display of strength among

the West Bank on the negotiating table to

against pushing too far.

of settlement expansion there.

'so that's not fair."

fman Sr. a few weeks ago.

obvious pattern of "snub diplomacy."

Clinton's 'Snub Diplomacy'

American experts.

MIDEAST:

lican of North Carolina.

Post reported:

which nations can qualify for monetary union, and that the decision would be made at a special European summit meeting on May 2.

Mr. Kohl, pressed hy reporters for a statement on Italy's chances, limited himself to stating that all candidates for monetary union "oeed to do their homework, and the report card will be issued

The tone of the Kohl-Prodi meeting treaty of Maastricht.'

would gain if the Iraqi embargo ended-

will look with more sympathy on Iraqi claims than independent technical in-

Even with diplomatic support, however, Iraq will still have substantive

problems getting clearance on both programs. Serious don bts remain about both

missile warheads," Mr. Butler said.

There were at least 75 of these special

warheads made. We destroyed 30 of

them, so we know they were there. They

say they destroyed the other 45, but

they've not been able to prove that to us.

There is also a hint that there may have

were filled with," he said, adding that

the commission wanted specific infor-

mation on what kind of germ warfare

agents or gases were loaded into the

missiles and bow and where they were

destroyed. The inspectors are demand-ing the paperwork that accompanied any acts of destruction.

This is needed to examine sites where

'They hate us to get documents," he

weapons were said to be destroyed. Mr.

said. "One of the reasons is that they are

Bnt reviews will begin, he said, even

Although there have been other tech-

nical evaluations of Iraqi evidence, the

agreement Tuesday came with the vague

deadline for a complete breakdown of

exactly what was meant by six months

inspections hanging over the talks.

Butler called it a "forensic process."

great document-keepers."

"We also need to know what they

"A key example is accounting for the

material and documentary evidence.

spectors have before.

been an additional 25."

careful to avoid committing himself about Italy.

asked to comment on Italy's plans to party's chances of winning general electeduce its public-sector debt, which is itons in September. now more than 120 percent of gross clining. "That issue cannot be addressed today," Mr. Kohl replied. "All detoday, cisions will be taken on the basis of the

said there would be no early decisions on majority of the German people, was that a majority of Germans would even-

tually support the single currency.

He added that he believed his efforts The chancellor was combative when on behalf of the euro would increase his

The Archbishop of Canterbury, leader of 70 million Anglicans Mr. Prodi said the meeting had conaround the world, urged Tuesday that Africa's crippling debt be fordomestic product but is gradually de-clining. "That issue cannot be addressed common objective of building a Europe "that is economically strong and po-liocally united." He also said that the the chains off Africa hy relieving ber of the burden of unpayable deht." recent flow of Kurdish refugees to Italy

of African Unity and the UN Eco-nomic Commission for Africa. The debt for 52 sub-Saharan African countries has reached \$235 hillion, mostly to the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, the African Development Bank and individual governments. (AP)

Opposition Leader Arrested in Congo

KINSHASA, Congo - The army arrested the outspoken opposition leader Joseph Olengankoy after breaking into his office Tues-

day, his party said. The arrest in Kinshasa followed weekend comments by President Laurent Kahila in which he reaffirmed a ban on political activity in the former Zaire during a two-year transition that ends next year.

"Olengankoy was taken away hy an armada of snidiers," said a spokesman for his party, the in-novative Forces for Union and Soli-

There was no official confirmation of the arrest.

Landslide Snarls Traffic in Peru

LIMA — Heavy machinery was being used Tuesday to clear mud and rubble from a landslide that has blocked one of Peru's principal highways for three days.

The Friday night landslide covered two miles of the highway that links Lima to the central high-lands, Peru's main source of fruits and vegetables.

For the Record

Leftist rebels dynamited Colombia's main pipeline twice in recent days, suspending pumping and spilling 12,000 barrels of crude oil into two rivers, the state-owned

if documents are still missing. "I have agreed we'll get in some experts to sit with us and the Iraqis and arms inspectors or six months from the talk this through to see where the truth speech on Saurday by President Sadlies," Mr. Butler said. "But I made it dam, who "endorsed" the powerless 'We actually had this out this mornvery, very clear that we are not prepared assembly's call. be said of the confrontation with to accept some kind of external adju-

sembly decision in November to recom-mend an end to cooperadon with the

The Iraqis refused to discuss the issue, dication. It's not like that. We're in coo-trol of this, but we will happily accept international assistance and guidance. Mr. Butler said, adding that be expected a period of rising tension with Iraq be-tween now and April, when the Security

Council next reviews sanctions. Iraq is likely to press harder than ever for an end to inspections, although even with some files closed Baghdad will still

face a long-term monitoring program at Mr. Butler said he had asked Mr. Aziz high-technology UN laboratories here. They contend that they don't have

that only the wicked Unscom won't see it that way," Mr. Butler said, referring to the United Nations Special Commis-

Foreign Minister Yevgeni Primakov of Russia, left, and Strobe Talbott,

U.S. deputy secretary of state, discussing the latest crisis over UN

weapons inspectors in Iraq. They met Tuesday at a conference in Sweden.

six months from the National As- any weapons of mass destruction and

Mr. Aziz. "Towards the end of our discussion, there was a pretty robust exchange be-

tween him and me, where I said: 'Sir, what yon're telling us is that you don't have any of these things any more and no means of making bad sniff, and the only reason wby this is not accepted by the world community is because the wicked Unscom won't see it that way. Right?"
"And be said, 'Yes, that's right."

oil company Ecopetrol said. (AP)

UNKNOWN: Pentagon Delves Into the 'Anonymity' of Serviceman in Arlington Tomb Continued from Page 1

against assuming that the Vietnam casnalty in the tomb was Lieutenant Blassie. But he said that every effort would be made to retrace the paper trail American Jews, the Christian religious and that tests on the actual remains were right and Republican leaders in Con-

gress, intends to warn the president "We're boping we can do something to satisfy the family," said the spokes-man, Larry Greer. "We're not sure what The Clinton administration believes that Mr. Netanyahu is putting too little of

Mr. Greer, who was an air force officer for 27 years before taking his current post, rejected any suggestion of conflict did not yield many bodies that deliberate deception.

He confirmed that the identity card testing and other advances in forensics, are her brother's. Michael Blassie grew lost or stolen from the time of the body's or. discovery by a South Vietnamese patrol until the remains arrived at a mortuary in

Saigon.
Mr. Greer conceded that some records pertaining to the remains had been destroyed, as CBS reported, but he said that was standard policy, as was widely reported at the time, to "preserve the sanctity of the unknown.'

Unlike previous wars, the Vietnam could not be identified. Because of DNA

and money found on the remains had the Pentagon had trouble finding an un-vanished but said they could have been known serviceman from that war to hon-and graduated from the Air Force and money found on the remains had 'the Pentagon had trouble finding an un-

> But one was finally chosen, and in Memorial Day services in 1984 his remains were interred next to bis brethren from earlier wars.

'As a child, did be play on some street in a great American city?" President Ronald Reagan asked, his voice cboked with emotion. "Did he work beside his father on a farm in America's heartland? Did he marry? Did he have children?

No. Ms. Blassie said Monday, assuming for a moment that the remains she said.

Academy. His father, now dead, was a meat-cutter.

Suppose, his sister was asked, that the remains in the tomb are not those of her brother. That will be all right, she said. because at least the family will know.

And if the remains are his? We want to bring him home," she said, adding that "home" could mean a cemetery in St. Louis or, perhaps, Arlington itself.

"Putting him to rest with a name on the headstone --- that would be bome,

es Thai



Real Help for Africa

The Clinton administration says it is putting Africa near the top of its priority list for foreign policy this year. President Bill Clinton will visit the continent, and officials are working with Congress to forge an initiative that would reward - mostly with in-Creased trade and investment — those nations that are pursuing sound economic policies and making progress on their own. Despite the poverty and civil conflict that still grip so many African nations, such relative success stories do exist, although they do not get much attention, and the administration is right to reach ont to them.

But a key plank of any successful Africa policy — debt relief — is in trouble right now, in need of a decisive push. Too many countries, even ones doing everything right in fiscal and social policy, find themselves hurdened by old debts, assumed by longgone dictators to pay for long-past wars and long-forgotten monuments. No matter how fast they race, these nations cannot get ahead of their interest payments, and so even the most democratic and sensible regimes find themselves unable to deliver sufficient

improvements in standards of living. One such burdened country is Mozambique, which has emerged from a 16-year civil war and shncked

its old Marxist ideology. It has a democratic government, a decade of good economic progress and a commitment to education for its population of 18 million - overall, as World Bank President James D. Wolfensohn has written, "a track record of good policy performance that qualifies it for a deht relief decision now." And its need is beyond question. Average income is less than \$100 per person, per year. More than 60 percent of adults are illiterate, more than one-third have no access to safe drinking water. Yet the country spends roughly twice on debt payments what it spends on education, and four times as much as on health, according to Oxfam International.

The World Bank and the International Monetary Fund have agreed to greatly reduce Mozambique's debt to them, but that will not help much unless bilateral creditors — including Russia, France, Italy and others — also agree to reduce Mozamhique's debt to sustainable levels. Representatives of these creditor nations, including the United States, are scheduled to meet this week. Whether they take meaningful action will be closely watched as a measure of whether the rich world's latest initiative toward Africa is rhetoric or reality.

THE WASHINGTON POST

The Pope Visits Cuba

Pope John Paul II has visited many dictatorships, but few of his trips have carried the expectations of this week's visit to Cuba. Anyone hoping that the visit will make Cuba much freer or shorten Fidel Castro's rule is likely to be disappointed. Only a few previous papal trips have had political rever-berations, and those have taken place in circumstances very different from those in Cuba today.

The closest the Pope usually comes to discussing secular politics is his embrace of religious freedom and other human rights and his insistence on policies that help the poor. He is known as an anti-Communist, but he also criticizes what he calls savage capitalism and opposes economic embargoes, two views that match those of Mr. Castro.

The Pope, however, is above all an evangelist. He travels to minister to Catholics, win more rights for Catholicism and strengthen and discipline the church. His political effect is greatest when the church itself has a major polit-

ical role, which is not the case in Cuba. The best example, of course, is Poland, where the Pope's contribution to the rise of Solidarity in August 1980 and the fall of communism was unmistakable. Karol Wojtyla visited his country eight months after his election as Pope John Paul II in 1978. At the time, communism was weakening and the opposition, led largely hy the church, was growing bolder. The Christmas, and Havana's cardinal re-Pope's visit, which drew crowds of up to 2 million, gave Poles moral and physical courage. Without directly criticizing the state, the Pope provided his imprint on Cuba. a challenge to communism.

In recent years, the Pope's most political trip was an 11-hour visit to Sandinista Nicaragua in 1983. The Catholic Church was split, always a situation of great concern to the Pope. The cardinal was the de facto leader of the political opposition, but leftist priests served in the government. The Pope rebuked the Sandinista priests, whose "liberation theology" he has long considered insubordinate and overly political. Since the division inside the church so closely mirrored the nation's political debate, the Pope's disapproval was widely taken as a devastating criticism of the Sandinista government

Cuba's Catholic Church has become a more active voice against the government in recent years. The papal visit may embolden it further and win some of the freedoms it still lacks, such as re-establishment of Catholic schools and more visas for visiting Latin American priests.

Often the Pope's biggest effect comes before he arrives. Just before the Pope's visit to Chile in 1987, General Augusto Pinochet allowed the publication of independent newspapers. Mr. Castro bas eased his harsh restrictions on the church since talks began with the Vatican about a possible trip. In June 1996 the regime allowed a public Mass for the first time in 25 years. Last month Cubans got a public holiday on cently gave a television address for the first time since Mr. Castro took power. In this sense, the Pope has already put

-THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Emptying the Oceans America's fisheries are not in good

shape. By some accounts, more than two-thirds of all commercially important fish populations are now classified as "fully fished" or "overexploited," which means that they are in decline or beading there.

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There are many reasons for this, including bloated fishing fleets, the absence of strong international regulations and the pollution of wetlands, coral reefs and other important breeding grounds. Another destructive force, and perhaps the most pointless, is "by-catch" — fish that are inadvertently caught and thrown back, usually dead, because the fleets do not intend to bring them to market. Ahout 20 million tons of fish, one-quarter of the annual worldwide catch, are

wasted in this way.

The task of minimizing by-catch, and otherwise ensuring the recovery of overfished species in American waters, now rests with the National Maritime Fisheries Service, which is writing regulations to carry out the 1996 Sustainable Fisheries Act.

Approved despite strong opposition from commercial fishing interests, the act finally tilted the rules in favor of the fish. It required the nation's eight regional fishing councils to adopt restoration plans, including strict quotas

where necessary, and it told the Fisheries Service to figure out bow to reduce by-catch.

For some species, adjustments in fishing methods could do wonders. Requiring shrimp boats in the Gulf of Mexico to modify their nets could cut by half the number of red snapper unintentionally caught and killed.

Other changes will be more con-troversial. Fishing with 'long lines," for example, is the main method of catching tuna, swordfish and other species in the open seas. Long lines consist of high-strength fishing lines baited with as many as 3,000 books. These honks kill many juvenile fish that are essential to the recovery of any species, as well as fish that now receive some legal protection, like marlin, giant bluefin tuna and sharks.

In 1991 the United Nations placed a moratorium on huge drift nets. Tough restrictions on long lines would be the next logical step.

Even the fishing industry cannot

much longer ignore the ohvious. As one conservation group, the Natural Resources Defense Council, put it in an influential study last year, "We are no longer living off the income of our fisheries, but eating deeply into the capital."

-THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Herald Tribune

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Suppose These Leaders Had the Stature of Sadat

anniversary quietly slipped by this past November. It was the 20th anniversary of Anwar Sadat's visit to Jerusalem. It is worth recalling Mr. Sadat these days — both his wisdom and his courage to just get oo a plane, fly to Israel, extend his hand to the Israeli people and thus pave the way for

the first Arab-Israeli peace. Twenty years later, the lesson of Sadatism seems to have been forgotten by both Israeli and Arah leaders. We are back in a pre-Sadat era.

I am sure Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has not come to President Bill Clinton empty-handed. He will have offered some further Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank, and may accept that the Palestinians will not have to meet all his demands up front before he has to do anything. That is good.

But what demands he attaches for the Palestinians, whether it is the laundry list he put out in Israel - a list that seemed designed more to win a propaganda war with the Palestinians than to elicit their real security cooperation remains to be seen.

will come with concrete, detailed counterproposals, not just complaints. Playest mian state in the West Bank and

By Thomas L. Friedman

ing the victim only tempts this Israeli government to treat him even more like a weak, inept vassal.

Still, even with the best of details, it is hard to get excited about this week's meetings. How can you? You can only get excited about a summit when you sense that there is someone there with the will to create a real breakthrough. That is simply not the case here.

Mr. Neianyahu's whole strategy seems to be to slow down history, not to make it, and Mr. Arafat's whole preoccupation is with being a victim of history, not its author. I realize that this is just a fantasy, but

think what it would sound like if Mr. Netanyahu and Mr. Arafat approached peacemaking like Anwar Sadat. The essence of Mr. Sadat's approach was that you start by reaching our to the other side and reassuring it on the most important psychological issues, and then you ask for all you want in return.

Anwar Nemnyahu would say this: 'My Palestinian neighbors, let me As for Yasser Arafat, one hopes he assure you that at the end of these

And as the sovereign rulers of that Palestinian state, it will be up to you to

decide how many residents you want. If you want to all live in high-rises, like Hong Kong, so that every Palestinian refugee can return, that's your business. I want to give the Palestinian refugees a stake in this process, too.

But having given these assurances, I will insist that your state be demilitarized and that Israel have an ongoing role in ensuring that it remains such. I will insist that your state be smaller than the 1967 borders, which were not defensible. And I will insist that a united Jerusalem remain with Israel, but we are ready to listen to your claims and to deal with this issue last.

"Now let's talk details."

Anwar Arafat would say this: My Israeli neighbors, we understand that you have legitimate security concerns. Let me assure you that we are ready to accept a demilitarized state. and we would even consider a UN trusteeship over that state for a limited period to help us get on our feet.

"I am also ready to acknowledge that the boundaries of our state do not of a real leader. necessarily have to correspond with the

Gaza. You are entitled to a state like 1967 lines. Limited adjustments may be possible to deal with issues of population and security.

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" But having given these assurances, we will demand Palestinian control over the vast majority of the West Bank. We will insist on running the Muslim religious sites in Jerusalem and will seek to establish our capital in the Jerusalem area. But we, too, will leave this to the last stage.

"Now let's talk details." As I said, just a fantasy. But if you want to know whether the talks this week are going anywhere, listen to Mr. Netanyshu and Mr. Arafat.

And then measure their words against the Sadat standard --- the standard of a man who did not hide behind his domestic political constraints but rose above them; the standard of a man who did not look to the American president to do bis psychological break-throughs, but did them himself; the standard of a man who understood that you always get more, not when you start by trying to lower the other side's expectations, but when you start by trying to honor its basic needs.

Yes, measure them by the stundard

How the Middle East Looks Today From Mubarak's Egypt

CAIRO — If Mohammed Khatami is successful in opening up Iranian relations with the West, Iraq will be left completely isolated. Fear of isolation could have the effect of moderating Saddam Hussein in a way that sanctions

never could. I believe President Khatami has good intentions and is serious, but he has many constraints. It remains to be-seen how far he wants to go, and how

far he will be allowed to go. The new regime in Iran has expressed an interest in mending fences with Egypt, but the signals are mixed. They have said, "Let us forget the unhappy past." Yet our intelligence is that Iran has not stopped giving support to extremists in Egypt and Sudan. Previous offers to mend re-

lations with Egypt were nipped in the hud by hard-liners. Nothing materialized. With Mr. Khatami, we helieve that the chances for change are greater than ever before, although it is not clear at all that the present trend is

bases its policies on hard facts, not on daydreaming. In his proposal for dialogue

with America, Mr. Khatami is essentially trying to mitigate the damage of the U.S. strategy to isolate his country. He decided to go directly to the main adversary, which is organizing the world against Iran.

We are looking to Washington to take the initiative now to get us out of the Palestinian-Israeli stalemate. If the situation is left to the parties themselves, the Israelis won't move.

The Clinton administration is serious about making Israel stick to its commitments. It seems to me that President Clinton now has a wide margin of maneuver to act.

First, Israel is bound by internationally recognized acfor a phased redeployment from the West Bank. The deadlines for beginning this withdrawal are already past. irreversible. In any case, we

By Osama Baz the American Jews, are in favor of a more moderate Israeli position. They view the stalemate as a hindrance to peace, as the path back to widespread ter-

rorism and perhaps even war. The American public today is well informed. They know that the reason the Arab countries are being lukewarm toward the American effort to contain Iraq is because the Palestinian-Israeli peace process is foundering. A vital Amer-

ican interest is at stake here. The Israeli positions to date - continuing with settlements, refusing to draw up a detailed plan of territory from which to redeploy - are ne-gotiating stances. Benjamin Netanyahu knows that without the support of the American public and the American Jews

he is not on solid ground. The Israeli government keeps talking about "reciprocity." For Mr. Netanyahu this does not mean that Israelis and Palestinians are bound to certain mutual commitments under Oslo. The term is for him a are not going to run after their Second, a good majority of euphemism meaning that the 100 percent. No country has words and promises. Egypt the American public, including Palestinians must do whatever ever done it. The Irish Repub-

the Israelis demand before Israel will fulfill its international obligations. This position is a delaying tactic that a clearminded American initiative ror is a malaise of our age. will make untenable.

The atrocities in Algeria against innocent people are unspeakable. There seems to be no end to it. What these terrorist groups do is against all teachings of Islam. The answer is not to inter-

nationalize the problem with foreign intervention. The only course is to strengthen the hand of the Algerian state. We must support the Afgerian government in its fight against the terrorists. No one in the world is in a position to tell them to hold a dialogue with those who murder women and children. All the terrorists want to do

is demonstrate to the world that the government is unable to protect its people. If we allow ourselves to interfere, we will be playing into their hands.

You cannot stop terrorism

lican Army goes on. There are terror attacks in the Jupanese subway, and even in the heartland of the United States. Ter-

The objective is to contain terror and to make terrorist organizations lower their expectations. The objective is to limir their ability to intimidate a society. Security measures are not

enough. Education of the people who might support them is critical. So is the promotion of proper religious interpretation of the Koran through the media. Together with this, of

course, a government must improve the lot of the people. Otherwise the terrorist groups will be able to convince them that they have been abandoned by the powers that be,

Mr. Boz, the senior security adviser to President Hosni Mubarak, was a foreign policy adviser to the late President Anwar Sadat. He spoke last week with Global Viewpoint editor Nathan Gardels. This comment is excerpted from an interview distributed by the Los Angeles Times Syndicate.

Economic Crisis Is Proof That Asians Need Democracy

TONG KONG - Philip TTose, chairman of what was until last week Asia's

largest investment bank outside Japan, was one of the biggest fans of what came to be known as "Asian values." In 1992, one of the boom years, Mr. Tose extolled the vir-

tues of "strong government some would call it dictatorship," which delivered "much better economic growth." His Hong Kong-based Peregrine Investments Holdings Ltd. went into bankruptcy this Jan. 12 because it had placed too large a bet on one of those strong gov-

ernments, Indonesia's. He was not alone in his preference for unrepresentative governments admired for their "efficiency." Other prominent Asian and Western business leaders shared his admiration for authoritarian countries such as Indooesia and China, and mocked the "inefficiency" of democracies such as India and the Philippines.

It is oo accident that Indonesia is now suffering the most from the Asian financial flu. Its causes? A despotic ruler who learned to cash in on his absolute political control, investors who relied on cronyism instead of market forces, and a lack of accountability and commonsense financial controls.

By Martin Lee Last week, under IMF pressure, President Suharto finally signed on to economic reforms, including dismantling monopolies controlled by bis friends and family.

Let us hope that the region's economic reckoning and Indonesia's disastrous path will belp put to rest the myth of "Asian values": that democracy and human rights are "Western" concepts inimical both to Asia and to economic growth. Now across Asia. people increasingly see the advantages of having open and accountable government and are beginning to demand it.

The countries that have weathered the Asian financial storm best are democracies -Taiwan, the Philippines and Japan. And those nations that are in the process of recovering, including South Korea and Thailand, bave done so only after jettisoning their corrupt former regimes through a democratic process.

The first lesson from the Asian crisis is that a government that is not answerable to its people will not be likely to have open markets or the institutions required to impose discipline to overcome a financial crisis.

A second lesson is that guarxi, or connections, are nev- ment to The New York Times.

er a substitute for the rule of law. Why is it a shock to discover that rulers in Indonesia, Thailand and China have taken advantage of the wealth created by foreign investment and their own people to line their pockets?

It is important for the West to seek not only economic restructuring from Asia's teetering autocratic regimes, but substantial political reform as well. A failure to diagnose the need for democratic and accountable government will bring only more economic misery.

The writer is chairman of the Democratic Party of Hong Kong. He contributed this com-

The U.S.-South Korean Partnership Needs Adjusting

military presence is "not ne-gotiable." The North is expec-

ted to continue to pursue its po-

sition, however, and this could

begin to strike a more resonant

chord as South Koreans fret

over the growing cost of main-

rea's current and future pres-

idents (Kim Young Sam re-

mains at the helm until Feh. 28)

should seize the opportunity of

the Cohen visit to stress to the

South Korean people why the continued U.S. presence is es-

Mr. Cohen and South Ko-

taining the U.S. forces.

HONOLULU — U.S. Defense Secretary William Cohen arrives in South Korea this Wednesday. This is the first visit to Seoul by a senior Pentagon official since the financial crisis struck South Korea in earnest. Mr. Cohen will need to deal with short- and

long-term security implications. The immediate impact has already been felt. The South Korean Department of Defense. is cutting its budget, which will mean cancellation of planned or anticipated expensive arms purchases from the United States.

That, combined with the severe devaluation of the won (which has lost more than half its value against the dollar in the last three months), is sure to remove South Korea from the with which the United States has a trade surplus.

It is not likely immediately to increase the South's vulnerability, however, given North Korea's own difficulties and the deterrence value of the U.S.-South Korean military alliance, backed up by the presence of 37,000 U.S. troops in the South.

Mr. Cohen should also be prepared to deal with requests for relief from impending security-related financial obligations. These include \$399 million in bost-nation support to defray the costs of the U.S. presthe Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization; a financial burden in the neigh- and the United States. borhood of \$5 billion to build

By Ralph A. Cossa

two light water reactors have so far stressed that the U.S. in North Korea

The reactors are part of a deal in which Pyongyang froze its nuclear "research" effort in return for interim fuel oil deliveries, which the United States is in large part funding, and for eventual construction of less proliferation-prone reactors, which South Korea and Japan

were expected to finance. South Korean defense officials have acknowledged their bost-nation support obligation as part of "burden sharing" ar-rangements with the United States. But they are hoping for some flexibility, since the \$224 million in wages to be paid (in U.S. dollars) to Korean workers short list of Asian countries at the U.S. bases will now cost more than twice as much won

as anticipated. President-elect Kim Dae Jung has joined a growing chorus (which includes Japanese officials) calling for at least "token" U.S. support to the reactors project.

These contentious issues, while of immediate concern, pale in comparison with the more fundamental question of America's future role on the Korean Peninsula The North Koreans have stated that they want to see a

total withdrawal of U.S. forces ence, and financial support for from the peninsula as part of any peace agreement to emanate from the four-party talks inwhich faces in the next 10 years . volving the two Koreas, China Both Washington and Scoul

sential to their security today and well into the future. The absence of a peace treaty in the past 45 years has not resulted in another war. Nor would the presence of a formal treaty assure peace, without a fundamental change in attitude in the North, along with reduc-tion in what is today the world's

fourth-largest standing army. Until there is genuine rapprochement between South and North, the surest guarantee of peace on the peninsula remains the U.S. military presence.

U.S. flexibility in easing the more immediate financial burdens on Seoul would help. But the likelihood that the U.S. Congress would approve additional funds for North Korean reactors PARIS - Twenty-two German is nil. The Clinton administration will be lucky to come up with the funds to pay for its obligated fuel oil deliveries.

one-time reduction in host-na- mediate problem that could damtion support, with the under- age U.S. and South Korean longstanding that these funds would instead be directed toward the to assure that the two countries

reactor project. A 25 percent reduction (about \$100 million) would not bankrupt the Pentagon. Construction costs are largely wonbased, and the payments in large part will go to support South Korean companies.

The writer is executive director of Pacific Forum CSIS, a Honolulu-based nonprofit for eign policy research institute. He contributed this comment to the The point is to defuse an im-International Herald Tribune.

do not renege on their side of the bargain with North Korea.

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1898: Yellow Journals NEW YORK — So great is the universal disgust with the out-

rageous performances of yellow journalism in this city that Senator Ellsworth has introduced a bill in the Legislature which is practically a gag law. It provides PARIS — Challenged to a duck that any person or agent engaged in editing or publishing any indecent, depraved or libellous paper, which degrades or injures the minds or morals of its readers, is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished by a fine of \$1,000 or imprisonment of one year or both. It will undoubtedly

be declared unconstitutional. 1923: Ruhr Arrests

civilians, including Friedrich Thyssen and five other coal operators in the Ruhr, have been arrested and taken to Mainz for One solution would be for trial by court-martial. There was the United States to agree to a a falling off in coal output and a

threatened strike by miners. The French Government is determined to meet every move of German passive obstruction by severe counter-measures.

1948: No Duel

by another reporter. Pierre Hervé, young writer for the Communist party's "L'Humanité," will have to refuse because his party alone dictates his enemies. This statement was made last night after seconds for Jean Bernard-Derosne, of the Rightist newspaper "L'Epoque, had left a challenge with M. Hervé, who is a member of the French National Assembly as well as a journalist. "The Communist party does not accept combats between individuals. it was announced at "L'Humanité's" office. "It is not possible to accept. Combat is decided by the party and not by the provocation of an adversary."



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From Mubarale's Egypt

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OPINION/LETTERS

Following the Pope's Example, America Can Help Free Cuba

WASHINGTON — Over the past 20 years, Pope John Paul II has been the most influential political — yes, political — figure in the world. He arrives in Cuba on Wednesday to spread the Gospel to a nation that has been spiritually starved, but his effect. as usual, will transcend religion.

In 1979, eight months after becoming Pope, he visited his native Poland, drew crowds of 2 million and belped establish the Solidarity movement. In 1983, he traveled to Nicaragua, crincized the liberation theology of its priests and belped end the Sandinista regime.

The Pope — even more than Ronald Reagan, Margaret Thatcher or Mikhail Gorbachev - was responsible for the nearbloodless revolution that routed communism and replaced it in Europe and Latin America with imperfect but largely bumane and democratic capitalism.

The only holdout is Cuba, e country of 11 million, frozen in time (1959 or thereabouts), morally and economically bankrupt, ruled by an aging, preening dictator who can't shut up.

Whet will Pope John Paul II, leader of the world's 1 billion Catholics and an inspiration to the faithful of other religions, say to Fidel Castro and his subjects? He will certainly try to establish a more firm foundation for the church in Cuba. He will also talk about human rights, which the Pope understands to mean not only political but also economic freedom. Even the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops

now admits that "the economy exists for the person, not the person for the economy.

Since the fall of his Soviet benefactors, Mr. Castro in desperation has had to loosen some of the state's control over how his people earn e living. In eight years, Cuba's gross domestic product (not much to begin with) has dropped 25 percent. There is now e pinch of entrepreneurship in Cuba — private food markets, foreign ownership of businesses.

But not much, and no thanks to the United States. The U.S. embargo, which limits travel and prohibits Americans from selling things to Cubans or buying things from them, has been in place for nearly 40 years — with absolutely no beneficial results. Multilateral trade sanctions work rarely, unilateral ones never.

The embargo bas not brought down Mr. Castro's regime. Instead, it has reinforced it by providing a scapegoat at which he can rail. Besides, if we Americans truly believe in economic freedom, how can we perpetuate a policy that not only flouts that principle but bas not worked anyway?

Trade, in fact, is a buman right. You should have the liberty to exchange your work, the products and services that you create, with anyone in the world - from the corner dry cleaner to the Balinese artist to the Havana cigar maker. The only exception is war, and America is not at war he himself would at last have he's criticizing capitalism."

YOUR GOD By James K. Glassman (or anything like it) with Coba. Some 35 years have passed since the missile crisis. In the rest of Latin America, with its 400 million Catholics, Mr. Castro can no longer subvert or agitate. He is a pathetic old man. What are Bill Clinton and Congress so afraid of? The Cuban exiles of Miami? Oh, maybe. But over the years they have shed their insularity and paranoia. Their uncompromising leader, Jorge Mas Canosa, died in November without e forceful successor. More

> to shoulder the blame. It would be too heavy e burden, and like the Berlin Wall, he would fall of his own weight.

"In her social doctrine," Pope John Peul II once said, "the church does not propose e concrete political or economic model, but indicates the wey,

presents principles." The wey is clear. The last Communist leader in the Western Hemisphere has overplayed a weak hand in allowing the Pope to visit his country. Out of touch, Mr. Castro has made a serious political hlunder.

In a six-hour televised speech that began Friday evening and stretched into the next day, be praised John Paul and insisted the Pope had much in common with Cuba's leaders. "He's done all his criticisms of communism," Mr. Castro said. "Now,

The truth is that the Pope's most pressing complaint about capitalism involves a country that professes to practice it but which enforces an embargo that mocks it. That country president could add to his legacy by standing up for principle and taking advantage of the pontiff's visit to declare that he will end all sanctions immediately - no matter what the anachronistic old man in the

beard and the fatigues does. Mr. Clinton, in short, should call Mr. Castro's bluff. The result, before very long, will be a thriving, Castro-less Cuha, e diamond crescent glistening in the blue Caribbean and another nation the Pope helped make free.

The writer, a fellow at the American Enterprise Instinute,

contributed this comment ta The Washington Post.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

important, most exiles under-

stand that they would be bene-ficiaries of e lifted embargo and a Cuba open to two-way trade.

last week, and you will find one

of the two or three most exciting

cities in the United States - its

buildings joyfully painted pink and other and turquoise, its

port jammed with containers and cruise ships, its banks and restaurants bustling.

No, the politician who has the

most to fear from e lifting of the embargo is Fidel Castro. "There

would be no surer way to un-

dermine the Castro regime,"

The Economist says, "than to flood his streets with Amer-

ican tourists, academics and

businessmen, with their notions

embargo, not only would Mr.

Castro be denied a scapegoat,

but if be still tried to keep out

U.S. investment (and films and

soft drinks and computers), then

If the United States lifted the

of liberty and enterprise."

Take a trip to Miami, as I did

An Agent for Change

Regarding "A Changing Cuba Embraces Catholicism" (Jan. 19) and "Pope Chooses 22 Cardi-

nals" (Jan. 19): The first article calls Pope Jobo
Paul II a "shrewd and charismatic revolutionary" while the second describes him as "putting his conservative stamp on the Roman

applied to both political and moral issues. Insofar as "'revolutico" means "change," the Pope has been an agent for change in the world.

But this is oot conservative change, nor for that matter liberal or progressive change. Within the Catholic Church such terms are oot meaningful. While political parties, philosophers and nation-Catholic Church." The terms states agonize about what is "conservative," "liberal" and "left" and what is "right," the "progressive" have become Vatican may go down in history increasingly problematic when as the first organization to realize

the redundancy of these terms. THOMAS BOURKE.

Regarding "Arafat Unwelcome at U.S. Holocaust Museum"

ser Arafat, as an official visitor,

(Jan. 19): The U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum at first refused to welcome the Palestinian leader. Yas-

the peace process. This federally operated museum thus turned The Museum and Arafat

down an opportunity to support
U.S. policy in the Middle East, HAROLD TITTMANN.

The officials of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum should have invited Yasser Arafat to the museum - if for no other reason than consistency. After despite the State Department's all, they invited the Croatian view that such a visit would be a president. Franjo Tudjman,

gesture of recoociliation helpful to who had denied the magnitude of the Holocaust, to the museum's very opening in 1993.

MLADEN ANDRIJASEVIC. Beersheba, Israel.

Leners intended for publica-tion should be addressed "Letters to the Editor" and contain the writer's signature, name and full address. Letters should be brief and are subject to editing. We can-not be responsible for the return of unsolicited manuscripts.

Amid Science's Advances, **Not Those That Matter**

By John Horgan

scientists.

In his new book, "Remaking Eden." Lee Silver, a biologist at Princeton, foresees an era in which humans attain virtually infinite power to manipulate their bodies and minds.

Our descendants will be smarter than Einstein and more athletic than Michael Jordan, he predicts, and they will live for hundreds of years, if not forever.

Recent events lend support to these sci-fi scenarios. This month, Richard Seed, a physicist in Illinois, announced plans to open a clinic for cloning humans, a nonon inspired by the cloning of a sheep last year. Last week, researchers at Geron Corp. reported their dis-covery of a possible "fountain of youth," a method that could pre-

vent the aging and death of cells.
Forgive me for being a bit jaded, but my own recent experiences

MEANWHILE

give me a somewhat different perspective on the potennal of these breakthroughs. Two years ago my brother-in-law, a vibrant man in his mid-'50s, was found to have cancer. He underwent the usual gamut of treatments, including surgery, chemotherapy and radiation - and a promising experimental technique using anti-angiogenic therapy. He died last fall. Since President Richard Nixon

officially declared a "war on cancer" in 1971, the United States has spent more than \$30 billion on cancer research. Scientists have taken enormous strides toward understanding how different types of cancer occur, and they bave invented sophisticated methods for detecting the disease and tracking its course.

But overall mortality rates from cancer have remained virtually unchanged since 1971, and io fact for the 50 or so years for which reliable data exist. Maybe someday all our research will yield a cure that will render cancer as obsolete as polio. But the record so far does not offer much hope.

Science has also made pitifully little progress at understanding. or healing, our fantastically complicated minds. A couple of mooths ago, while doing research oo mind-related science.

GARRISON, New York — I watched depressed patients
These are giddy days for at the New York State Psychiatric at the New York State Psychiatric Institute at Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center receiving electro-convulsive therapy.

More popularly known as shock treatment, it has been refined since the days when it was portrayed in "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest." Parlents are given muscle relaxants and mouth guards to prevent teeth and bones from shanering, and dosages are cal-

ibrated to reduce memory loss. No one has any idea why shock therapy works. The relapse rate is extremely high, as much as 90 percent. Yet, incredibly, shock therapy is the most effective treatment for severe depression. So much for the claims that we are on the verge of abolishing despair

and anxiety through drugs. The potential of human genetics has also been overrated. Over the past decade or so, scientists have served up finding after finding proclaiming the discovery of genes that supposedly control complex human traits and disorders such as novelty-seeking, homosexuality, schizophrenia, manic depression and alcoholism.

Researchers hope they will be able to customize human personalities through genetic engineering. But so far not a single one of these claims linking genes to complex traits has been corroborated by follow-up studies.

Researchers have made genuine progress in finding genes associated with certain diseases - cystic fibrosis, Huntington's disease. Lou Gehrig's disease and early-onsel breast cancer. But none of the promises of therapies based on this genetic knowledge have been fulfilled. It is natural to focus on the

advances of science. But given how little progress science has made against such fundamental problems as cancer and mental illness, all this talk about our impending biological omnipotence strikes me as unseemly.

By drawing attention to failures as well as legitimate achievements, perhaps scientists and journalists alike will present a less distorted, more hooest picture of scieoce's real prospects.

The writer, author of "The End of Science," contributed this com-ment to The New York Times.

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GASTRON

Culinary Renaissance as Cultural Heritage

gastronomic traditions.

Greece can be called both the first and the last culinery New York elone, some 20 frontier in the Mediterraneen. new Greek restaurants - all ad dishes and ingredients

Greece is also the Medi-

still the undiscovered and elightly misunderstood. For de-Greek cuielne was defined by the few hackneyed dishee earved restaurant menua from Athens to San Francisco: moussaka, pas-

tier, though it might

souvlaki, etc. But all that has changed at lightning speed in the last few years. A revolution is afoot that is altering the way foreigners.

titslo, Greek salad,

both in Greece and abroad, experience Greek cooking. Fifteen years ago, the evolution of Greek wina began to take hold. Today, tha wine industry is vibrant. The cur-

United States.

The first, because the culin-opened in the last three from vast regional traditions, ary traditions of antiquity years — highlight the unusu- have found e new home and linger on, not only in the myri- el, rotaust and tremendously new expression in restaurvaried cuisine from every restill found in Greek culinery glon of the country. In adculture, but also in the in- dition, e spate of books on fluences that reach beyond traditional Greek cooking has been published in the last six or seven years. These books terranean's last culinary fron-feature Greek food in a cul-

yond moussaka. Today, in

Escargots are not just for the French.

tural light, with an emphasis on the wealth of home cook-

The revolution finally hit Greek shores a few years ago. In Greece in the 1970s and 1980s, chefs tended to be seduced by everything forrent food evolution started in eign and easy. Fortunately, the early 1980s, in the press reports on the healthfulness of the Mediterranean

"DESTINATION GREECE: GASTRONOMY" was produced in its entirety by the Advertising Department of the International Herald Tribune. It was sponsored by the Greek Tourism Organization. WRITER: Diane Kochilas, based in Athens. PROGRAM DIRECTOR: Bill Mahder.

First, a small restaurant diet, especially the Cretan that focus on Greek cuisine discovering the country's Menhattan end was the first more aware of their culinery beacon of Greek cuisine be- treasures.

And in the lest two or three years, Greek dishes, culled from e long continuum and. ants. In other words, Greek regionel end home cooking are finally becoming access-Ible outside the home.

The Academy (not Plato'e) The last few years have elso witnessed e newfound interest in the culture of food. Private culinary foundatione At the urging of Nikos are springing up that eim to resuscitate and promote an- general director, restaurants clent and Byzantine food tra- all over Greece can now parwith dishes culled from the late author's novels.

in the preas, too, food has tourists, signifying that tra- cuisine. become e staple. Five years ditional Greek culsina is ago, most newspapers dld served on the premises. not have weekly food sections. Today, almost all of them do. As for magazines. the last few years have seen the birth of numerous spepublications centered on food, wina and lifestyle.

All these factors comtrined, from within and outside of Greece, have produced a new mentality. Athens has followed other European cities end now has a food and restaurant culture of its own. Dozene of fine dining establishments Grape leaves are a savory Greek staple.

What does that mean exas local residents - are re- called Periyali opened in dlet, helped make Greeks have opened in the last two actly?

Highest standards

Greek food es well as new dishes -- plus other Greek products that are not only de-Greek flavors are at the center of the current restaurant licious, trut really pure must be used;" says Mr. Skoulas. "All of these are served in the traditional way. At the end of the meel, coffee Outside of Athens, end esis enjoyed straight from the pecielly in tourist hot spots. the scene is different. In the brik. 'The alm is to convince most heavily touristic parts of restaurateurs that culsine is the country, restaurants and as much e part of Greek culhotel eateries are just now ture as the monuments or beginning to join the bandbeaches thet tourists flock to

wagon, end this thenks experience. lengely to an initiative of the Greek Tourism Organization. Health's the word The accreditation program is In the pilot phese and lebeing Skoulae, the organization's and Thessaloniki. In the iniditions as well as regional take in e voluntary accred- tial phase, the emphasis is culsine. One euch organiza- itation program. The elm is to lergely on educating the tion in Crete, the Greek promote Greek cuising and to teams of people who will ac-Academy of Teste, has improve restaurant stan- tually be visiting the restaurstaged some of the most in- dards throughout the coun- ants to determine which esteresting cullnary events in try. Restaurants that meet tablishments are eligibla for the country. The most recent the criterie with respect to the accreditation. Next, was a day devoted to the the type and quality of chefs and restaurataurs will culsine of Nikos Kazantzakis, culsine, décor, service and take seminars on all aspects hygiene will be rewarded with of the restaurant business, an official sticker, visible to with a special emphasis on

"Food has been important to humankind throughout its

Shering meals brings people closer together. If tourists anjoy this experlence in Greece. they will want to retum." Savs Skoulas.

flavors of the tradi- grims' routes as they made better. It'a as though the fore. ●



tionel kitchen are distinct. theirway toward the Tha relience on fresh, sea- Holy Land in the sonal vegetables; myriad Middle Ages. The wild greens, beans and travelers needed legumes; and, of course, ex- somewhere cellent olive oil make Greek cooking some of the healthlast in the world. The rituels is e serious affair in surrounding many dishes, Greece. So interfrom roasting the Easter twined is the sherlamb to making elaborate ing of food with the holiday breads, open e whole notion of hospitality new cultural world for visitors that the Greek word

Companionable meat

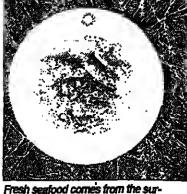
The truth is that major part of the Greek gast share food is tha ultimate ex- suddenly escaped, enticing culaine, ronomic experience, whether pression of civility for a Greeks and foreigners elike whether served in at home or in a restaurent it Greek simple local tavems is unthinkable to a Greek not or in fine restaur- to offer e guest something to preserving, daveloping end terranean. ants, hee much to of- eat and to drink. The first inns showcasing traditional and

stop, rest, eat.

Offering a meel for companion derives from the notion of partaking in

Perheps most important of a common meal

The newfound Interest in



roundina seas.

all is the hospitality that is a with another person. To aromas of the Greek pot had to take e second look at the culinary heart of the Medi-

Greek cuisina is the Medi-

fer foreigners end lo- In Europe were in Greece, In regional Greek culeine marks terranean's best-kept eecret, cals elike. The Macedonia, along the pil- a significant chenge for the but it is finely coming to the

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A Javoffe

korea

An Unusual Holocaust Film Is a Controversial Hit in Italy daily Il Messaggero, "has become a sort of the film—and of the of the father's love, and sacrifice, of metal detector, whose alarm bell signals ideas defeate controversy surrounding it. The same is the crux of the film—and of the for his child—and the depth of the signals that the worst was about to happen the controversy surrounding it. The same is the crux of the film—and of the father's love, and sacrifice, way into the film. Perhaps there were signals that the worst was about to happen the controversy surrounding it.

By Ruth Ellen Gruber

OME — The big box-office hit in Italy this season has been a movie about the Holocaust, by one of the country's favorite comedians. "La Vita e' Bella" (Life Is Beaotiful), directed, co-written and starring the Tuscan comie Roberto Benigni, packed in the audiences in movie houses up and down the peninsula with its story of love, suffering and survival.

But it also sparked heated debate on talk shows and in the press about the legitimacy, wisdom — or good taste of making a film about the Shoeh that

also makes people laugh. The film, said an article in the Rome oals ideas, defects, goodness, hypocrisy.

or wickedness in people's DNA." In the Tuscan town of Arezzo in the late 1930s, Guido, an Italian Jew (played by Benigni, who is not Jewish), falls in love with, courts and marries a non-Jewish woman - flamboyantly stealing her away from a Fascist fiancé.

They have a son and form a happy family. Without warning, Guido and the 5-year-old son are deported by German occupiers to a Nazi death camp. The mother demands — and is allowed — to be deported with them. Mother and son survive. Guido does oot.

Benigni's account of how the son makes it through the borrors of the death

controversy surrounding it.
What Benigni does in "La Vita e' Bella" is to chronicle the desperate - course Guido takes to ensure that his little boy makes it, and makes it with as little pain as possible. This course entails convincing the child that the deportation, the death camp, all the horrors around them are obstacles to surmount in a strange, exciting game.

A clearly conveyed sense of desperation permeates Benigni's gags as he tries to protect his son through makebelieve. Even as we laugh, we can feel that Guido is walking a tightrope with his clowning.

Cinematically the film has weak spots, but what comes through is the

child's trust in his father.

The first half of the film is essentially a romantic screwball comedy as Benigni, a scrawny, rubber-faced character with wild hair and receding chin, falls in love and wins his wife. Fascism forms a casual backdrop - there is no hint of the coming carastrophe.

Benigni's Guido is a perfectly integrated Italian everyman, oot a caftaned, shtetl-dwelling "other." In one hilarious scene he uses himself as an example of the purity of the Aryan

There is scant mention that Guido is Jewish until an anti-Semitic slogan suddenly, shockingly, appears about half falling in love, with life, to notice.

Italian Jews were indeed highly assimilated before World War II - thousands of Jews were even members of the Fascist Party. The people who were suddenly branded subhuman, deported and subjected to a desperate game of survival, the movie says, were just like you and me.

'I wanted to portray a Jew who was not recognized by precise signs, but who was the same as I am, "Benigni told the Rome Jewish monthly Shalom. "I wanted the audience to ask themselves,

not involved to politics, who does his job and then suddenly down comes this ax that smashes his life, just as it really happened."

About 8,000 Italian Jews were de-

ported to their deaths during the war. Italy's leading research center on the Holocaust and anti-Semitism was an adviser on the film, and response to the movie within the 30,000-strong Italian Jewish community, while not unanimous, has in general been warm. Jewish organizations in Rome and Milan sponsored screenings.

Ruth Ellen Gruber is working on a why are they deporting Benigni, how book about Jewish culture in non-Jew-could they take even him? [Guido] is a ish contexts in Europe.

'Ragtime': An Utterly Resistible Musical

By Ben Brantley New York Times Service

EW YORK — Blessed with beauty, ambition, a smashing wardrobe and a social conscience, "Ragtime" would seem to be the kind of musical that brings Broadway audiences to their knees in adoration. Then why does this \$10 million show, which just opened at the new Ford Center for the Performing Arts, feel so utterly resistible?

Sitting through this heavily publicized adaptation of E. L. Doctorow's 1975 novel about turn-of-the-century growing pains is like meeting someone on the basis of a promising lonely-hearts ad, It's not that your date doesn't match the adjectives from the glamorous selfdescription. But face to face, you discover there's just oo chemistry.

There is much to admire in "Ragtime," from its images of hand-tinted daguerreotypes brought to exquisite life man, Brian Stokes Mitchell, as the black revolutionary Coalhouse Walker. But there is finally little to fall in love with.

Conceived to inaugurate the Ford Center by Livent Inc., the Canadian production company that brought "Show Boat" back to Broadway several years ago, the production has a correspondingly commemorative quality. A pan-oramic look at the beginning of this century from the perspective of its end, it often has the feeling of an instructional diorama in a pavilioo at a world's fair.

And just as the handsome new building that houses "Ragtime" is a refabrication of two theaters from the era in which the show is set, the Lyric and the Apollo, the musical is a carefully constructed pasticbe of period charm and contemporary mechanical effi-ciency. The result itself is less a celebration of theater per se than of theatrical technology and its smooth

On one level, this isn't inappropriate to Doctorow's landmark novel, a sleek, seductive narrative that mixed real-life historical figures with fictional characters to paint a canvas of a country dizzy from innovations in transportation and industry and the attendant so-

cial consequences. Overseen with a close attention to detail by Garth Drabinsky, its prodocer, "Ragtime" not only comments on this infatuation with the idea of progress, it also glories in it, giving off the equivalent of a self-delighted chuckle any time it sends a plane, train or automobile onto the stage. And when a character says he would like to write the name of his beloved in fireworks, sure enough, that name materializes before us in multicolored lights.

This all adds up to a spectacular feast for the eyes. And as the runaway success of "The Lion King," the musical pro-doced by Livent's rival in show-off showmanship, Walt Disney, demon-strates, visual brilliance can in itself be enough to satisfy a Times Square aodi-ence. But "The Lion King" is stamped with the idiosyncratic vision of one person, Julie Taymor, its director and de-

signer.
"Ragtime," oo the other hand, has
the aura of something assembled by corporate committee, and when an actor playing Henry Ford shows up to extol the miracle of the assembly line, you may draw uncomfortable parallels. The skills and virtues of "Ragtime" are many and undeniable; but a distinctive human personality is not among them.

This is all the more frustrating given the impressive squad of individual tal-ents Drabinsky has assembled. The show's book is by Terrence McNally ("Master Class," "Love, Valour, Compassion!"); the music and lyrics are by Stephen Flaherty and Lynn Ahrens ("Once on This Island"); Broadway veteran Graciela Daniele is responsible for the "musical staging" (a phrase, in this instance, wisely substituted for "choreography"), and the director is Frank Galati, who showed a strong feeling for socially conscious Americana in his production of "The

DD to this mix the first-rate artists Eugene Lee (the set designer behind Drabinksy's "Show Boat"), Santo Loquasto (costumes) and Jules Fisher and Peggy Eisenhauer (lighting), all at the top of their form.

Grapes of Wrath."

Indeed, the combined achievement of these creators is, on some levels, an astonishment. Unlike Milos Forman's 1981 film adaptation of Doctorow's book, this versioo has a seamless, fluid quality and also keeps the varied and intricate aspects of the plot helpfully clear. And both McNally's libretto and Flaherty's score often evoke the rhythms of the Scott Joplin-esque rag music used as a metaphor for changing

The show's dazzling opening number, while slightly less effective than in its more supple incarnation in its Toronto opening, would seem to herald the advent of an all-American musical to join the ranks of "Oklahoma!" and 'Show Boat." But as "Ragtime" points out again and again, promises are not always realized.

opening dance to introduce themselves, in the third person, represent three sep-arate story lines that will intersect and mesh. There's the generic white New Rochelle family of Father (Mark Jac-oby), Mother (Marin Mazzie) and their son (Alex Strange), plus Mother's rest-

(Mitchell), the charismatic jazz pianist, and his lover, Sarah (Andra McDonald). and his lover, Sarah (Andra McDonald), who with her illegitimate child is taken in by Mother. The third story line belongs to Tateh (Peter Friedman), a Jewish immigrant who, inspired by hopes of a better life for his daughter (Lea Michele), turns a knack for creating animated silhouette picture books into a career as a movie director. Also on hand are such iconic figures as Ford (Larry Dagget), Emma Goldman (Judy Kaye), Harry Hondini (Jim Corti) and Evelyn Nesbit (Lynnette Perry).

The frame for the work's momentous events, which reach a climax when Walker seeks revenge after his car is destroyed by white racists, is Lee's wonderful evocation of the old Pennsylvania Station. It's a fitting context for a work about the velocity of change, a mood enhanced by the liquid segues from one scene into another and the ever-shifting. emotionally coded colors that drench the stage's back screen.



Brian Stokes Mitchell as Coalhouse Walker in "Ragtime."

what came across most piercingly in Doctorow's novel was the vertigo of a world whose bottom was falling out, of the exciting danger in the shaking of class and sexual mores. But this sanitized "Ragtime" has no place for sex, even purning Nesbit from a disturbing, paved surface of Main Street.

Despite its bermised, ironic tone, erotic presence into a harmless Marilyn Monroe-like cartoon.

It seems significant that Sigmund Freud, one of the characters in the novel, has been eliminated from the musical. This is a show without a subconscious, a parade that never strays from the well-

BOOKS

THE WORLD MORE OR LESS

By Jean Rouaud. Translated by Barbara Wright. 218 pages. \$22.95. Arçade.

Reviewed by Richard Bernstein

JEAN ROUAUD became a and coocentrated on the older geogrations. "Fields of Glory" introduced the narfew years ago when he transformed himself from newspa- rator's grandfather and greatper-kiosk vendor to winner of aunt Marie, who oever overthe Goncourt Prize with his came their losses in World first oovel, translated into English as "Fields of Glory."

The first book and its se-"Illustrious Men." caught the French public's eye with their hypersensitivity to the private con- rator was 12 years old. sequences of the two horrifie wars fought on French ter-

ritory in the 20th century. Rouaud's historical awareness, combined with an origvoice is an affectionate parody of Marcel Proust - gave these excursions into past and present a tone of tenderness

The World More or Less"

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Kandom on the misty Piench Atlantic coast. The oovel, suand unusual in its sensibility

War L. "Illustrious Men" dwells on the narrator's father, a traveling salesman who was taken prisoner in

"The World More or Less" takes up the inner life of the

perbly translated by Barbara through reluctant efforts oo Wright, is as richly intense the soccer field; we see him as Rouaud's previous work. In the first two books, Rou-

extreme sensibility. Germany during World War What is most striking about II and who died when the nar-

quizzical, derisively self-mocking, myopic narrator, a young man striving uncertainly to be a writer and remembering the events of his adolescent and early adult years. There are shades of the James Joyce of Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man" in this unnamed person, whose own tragedies is Rouand's third book in this are told almost in passing, in his trilogy, which is rooted in the subordinate clauses.

experience of a tragedy-struck The time appears to be the about a Sunday in the counfamily in a rural village called '60s, perhaps early '70s, try. He does, not about the The story takes its teller

> enduring the cruelties of an all-boys Catholic school called Saint-Cosmes; we watch as he is absorbed by fringe politics, sex and what we used to call "art" films. The results are both amusing

Rouaod's narration is an exercise in hyperawareness; it is a visioo of a world magnified in the dewdrops of an

Rouaud is not so much his story as the richly original, inventive manner of its telling. The prose is perfumed, ornare, ruefully comie, unfailingly witty. It produces many passages like this one, in which the narrator describes the sadistic impulse of a teacher at Saint-Cosmes to pick on a pupil whom he assumes does not know the ma-

terial at hand: 'He tries to make himself inconspicuous behind a elassmate's back, keeping his head down behind the hinged top of his desk, trusting in a miraculous isochromatism that will make him merge into the wood, while the authority a sweeping glance the whole class in search of a choice victim, well and truly ignorant, nice and ripe, without for a moment dreaming that this ig-

norance may actually be partly due to him." One of the more affecting passages in "The World More or Less" comes when the schoolboy narrator is asked to accomplish one of the standard tasks of a French you are alone, helpless.

jobs with Grandfather, I go fishing with Grandmother, I look for birds' oests with my cousins" - but about what be actually did on Sunday afternoons, visit the grave of his prematurely dead father. What follows is a brilliant

and meticulously detailed ac-

count of the journey to the the "schistose-stone wall crowned with self-propagating plants" to the class distinctions evident in tombstooes, to compensatory denials of the decomposition of the flesh. But the essay is deemed a failure by the professor of composition on the grounds "that I hadn't really dealt with the subject (in case you've forgotten: describe a Sunday in the country)."

This brings us to the affecting heart of Ronaud's slender recollection, which no doubt was received so warmly by the French because of the way that it seems rooted in an identifiable Frenchness, the losses of the wars, the hleak shores of the Loire-Atlantique.

As Rouaud's young man is made to stand on an ironical podium to receive his placement at the bottom of his class, he glances, through his thick leases, to the nearby sea. which makes him "feel that your internment is total, that even the ocean is hostile to you because in one fraternal act it could easily submerge Saint-Cosmes, it could extract one mighty breaker from that useless liquid mass and put an

abrupt end to your calvary." But it doeso't, and in that failure, 'you feel, finally, that education, to write an essay New York Times Service

less Younger Brother (Steven Sutcliffe).
Then there's Coalhouse Walker

A Composer's Quick Rise

By K. Robert Schwarz New York Times Service

'EW YORK — American composers of "serious" music labor invisibly in a country enthralled by popular culnire. Only a lucky few achieve fame outside the classical-music ghetto.

two decades back, and 10 years ago the younger generation already included many worthy candidates: Michael Torke, Aaron Jay Kernis, David Lang, Tobias Picker and Julia Wolfe.

But suddenly Richard Danielpour, who was scarcely known a decade ago. has leapt ahead of the pack. Danielpour's newest work, "Elegies," will be performed on Thursday evening at Carnegie Hall by the mezzo-soprano Frederica von Stade, the baritone Thomas Hampson and the Jacksooville Symphooy Orchestra, conducted by Roger Nierenberg.

Perhaps it will shed light oo Danielpour's quick rise from obscurity to virtual certification as classical mu-

sic's young composer of choice. To Danielpour, 40, however, the process has been anything but quick. "From the beginning, it was agon-izing," he said recently. "It was like waiting for a Polaroid to develop, but the Polaroid took 10 years instead of 30 seconds.

In the early 1980s, while studying at the Juilliard School, Danielpour, like so many of his colleagues, moved away from the complexities of modernism toward a more accessible idiom. Today, his music, brilliantly orchestrated, rhythmically propulsive and mostly tonal, offers excitement and ready appeal. It is also rife with

27 Leeder involve in 70's shuttle

ACROSS

Wacky

reminiscences of Bernstein, Copland, Stravinsky, Shostakovich and other 20th-century masters.

"As I got older, I was aware of a number of different strands coming together in my music, rather than seeing myself on a mission with one particular ax to grind," said Danielpoor, who calls himself an assimilator rather than innovator. By drawing on styles that are familiar and unthreatening, Danielpour has been able to win over even the most conservative audiences.

"To call Richard an innovator would be a joke," said the older composer Ned Rorem, a friend of Danielpour's. "What he does is to take what's around. Then he is embarrassed by the fact that he's stealing, and he tries to cover his tracks. For a good composer, the act of creation is the act of covering one's tracks, and oow I'm speaking as much for myself as for him."

As Rorem suggests, borrowing from existing sources is a practice with a long and honorable tradition. Nierenberg, a loogtime champion of

Danielpour's music, concurs. "I think it's ridiculous to be uptight about that," Nierenberg said. "In the process of finding the means to express his message, Richard draws from many resources. Composers have always done that."

Ultimately, the origin of the material is less important than what is done with it, and Nierenberg maintains that Danielpour's music is so distinctive that even an unfamiliar work would be identifiable. "I'm sure I would recognize it as his," Nierenberg said.

Rorem is not so sure that Danielpour has found his own voice. "Somebody else might think so," Rorem said. "I doo't think that he has."

But perhaps that was never Danielpour's intention. "For me style is not the issue." he said. "It's how well a piece is written on a purely technical level. If other composers see themselves as superior just because their music may be more 'original,' that's

O.K. That's not what I'm about." Despite their diverse sources, nielpour's finest works are remarkably cohesive. The Cello Concerto he wrote for Yo-Yo Ma in 1994, for example, is so seamless in its flow, so logical in its structure, that even on first hearing it imparts a certain in-

UCH inevitability, combined with tooal harmonies, an American-sounding rhythmic swagger, an easy lyricism and a keen understanding of instrumental color, makes for a winning formula. So winning, in fact, that it has attracted the atteotion of some of classical music's superstars, many of who rarely touch new music.

And it has led Sony Classical to sign Danielpour to an exclusive cootract, putting him in the elite company of Stravinsky and Copland, who had contracts with Sony's predecessor. Columbia Masterworks.

Danielpour, seemingly eager to make certifiably important statements in his music, can veer dangerously close to bombast. His new work, "Elegies," affords him an opportunity to tooe down the rhetoric and discover

the expressive potential of restraint. Both the subject of the work and its style were inspired by von Stade, whose father was killed in the last days of World War II, two months before she was born.

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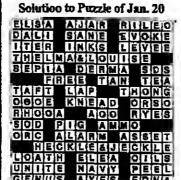
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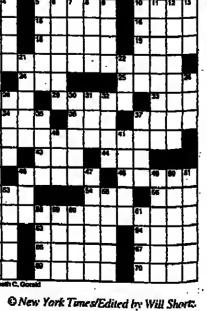
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PAGE 11

Unions Get A Reprieve In Korea

Talks With Government Avoid Issue of Layoffs

By Don Kirk
rnational Herald Tribun

SEOUL - South Korea's two national labor unions, ending crucial ne-

otiations with top corporate and govtrument leaders, won an agreement Tuesday night on restructuring the economy that avoids the key issue of mass layoffs while blaming business and government for the economic mess.

Meanwhile, President-elect Kim Dae Jung sharply criticized powerful business conglomerates for announcing reform measures that he derided as "conmment leaders, won an agreement

form measures that he derided as "cosmetic plans" with "hollow contents." The developments indicated that al-though the financial turmoil that swept South Korea's financial markets has

calmed in recent days, the nation is still struggling to find ways to impose the sort of financial discipline required by the International Monetary Find and its rescue plan valoed at about \$50 billion. After two days of wrangling, the national negotiating group, known as the Tripartite Committee, concluded its discussions by simply stating that government, business and labor should 'cooperate to reach an agreement" on the labor issue. The committee postponed any decision on mass dismissals

until the national assembly convened

next month to set economic policy. Negotiators in the committee sided with labor on key points rather than permit the talks to dissolve in public acrimony on the eve of crucial talks opening in New York oo Wednesday with South Korea's creditor banks. Senior South Korean officials will meet with international bankers there to consider moves to restructure some \$92 billion in debt beld by Sooth Korean

banks and corporations The Federation of Korea Trade Unions and the more militant Korean Confederation of Trade Unions, both of which are on the Tripartite Committee, have threatened strikes if new legis-

lation permits massive layoffs.
The committee's declaration calls for the elimination of waste in government, an unemployment policy that increases benefits, substantial restructuring mea-sures by companies and an end to what it calls "the abuse of illegal layoffs."

The agreement also urged unions to crate on the problem of wages and working hours" and "avoid strikes and protests." Labor leaders, in standing firm against any commitment to layoffs, believed they had the support of Kim Dae Jung, who appeared sympathetic to labor in his presidential campaign.

Mr. Kim conveyed his disappointment Tuesday with what he regarded as "the hollow conteots of self-reform programs" announced by two of the

programs announced by two of the country's largest chaebol, or conglom-crates, Hyundai and L.G.

"This time conglomerates cannot simply restructure cosmetically," a spokesman quoted Mr. Kim as telling his top economic adviser, Park Tae Joon.

Humadoi South Korna's largest having

Hyundai, South Korea's largest business group in terms of assets, and LG, the third-largest in both sales and assets, said Monday that they would unload moneylosing enterprises and entities and introduce outside directors to the boards of all their companies. Hyundai also canceled a number of costly projects, including plans for a steel mill on Korea's southeastern coast, and suspended work on a semiconductor plant in Scotland. Both groups, however, avoided setting

deadlines for these steps.

"The right things are being talked about," said David Young, in charge of the Boston Consulting Group's office here, "but there's some distance be-

tween announcements and actions." Mr. Young said he would "feel better when there is some push on mergers and acquisitions." But Daniel Harwood, in charge of the brokerage Hoare Govett's office in Seoul, was somewhat less pessimistic. "The chaebol might feel they're getting away with it," he said, "but that won't change the fact that bankers don't want to lend them more money" after rolling over current debts.



A customer checking out the ads in the Recycler in Los Angeles.

'Free-Ads' Papers Draw Gaze of Multinationals

By Eric Hubler New York Times Service

NEW YORK — For more than two decades, consumers around the world in search of widgets, wombats or

wives have turned to their local "freeads'' papers.
For almost as long, oewspaper pub-

lishers have considered free-ads papers as minor pests. Though they look

MEDIA MARKETS

like tabloid newspapers, these papers have more in common with fliers for a swap meet or a yard sale than with a

traditional newspaper.

But while these papers have been flying under the radar screens of everyone but their devoted readers for years, the format, invented by a selfdescribed hippie, has become so profitable that the papers are being snapped up by multinationals or expanding into chains in their own right.

The free-ads paper is not, itself, free. Rather, it is the ads that are free, an abhorrent notion to most publishers. By letting individuals place free classifieds, then charging them a dollar or two to buy the paper, free-ads publishers turn the classified ads themselves into content around which advertising can be sold to businesses.

One prominent player, London-based Loot Group, takes in \$52 million annually from its 14 British and Irish editions, with about 55 percent coming from the cover price and 45 percent from display ads, according to its managing director, Heidi Bergemann. What has really helped fuel the

growth of the papers is an Amsterdambased trade organization called the Free Ads Paper International Asso-ciation, which represents about one-

third of the world's free-ads papers. The group's 80 member publishers put out titles in 140 cities with circulations ranging from 6,000 to 450,000.

The publications are not as big a phenomenon in the United States, but they are published in cities such as Los Angeles, Las Vegas, Indianapolis and Charleston, South Carolina, though not all are members of the association.

Readers attracted to the idea of getting something for nothing are people like Peter Hoffman, a Manhattan private investigator who is so hooked on Loot's year-old New York edition that be has his electronic scheduler remind him of its deadline each week. So far he has sold a camera, a couch and the boxes he used in a recent move through the paper. Now he is trying to unload an Amtrak ticket.

"It's like a permanent yard sale for me," Mr. Hoffman said. "I never got rid of so much junk in my life." In addition to providing technical support and setting standards --members may not, for example, publish ads relating to drugs, weapons, prostitution or pedophilia—the Free Ads Paper International Association is a trade association with a twist, Ms.

Bergemann of Loot Group said. With the aid of a coupon developed by the organization, a reader of any member paper may submit an ad for free publication in any other member paper (if the ad goes to more than one paper, it costs a few dollars). This allows lonely hearts in Milan to read the plaintive wisbes of their counterparts in Tokyo or New York.

A recent edition of London's Loot that chain's flagship paper, filled 96 tabloid-sized pages. It included ads for selling or swapping everything

See NEWSPAPER, Page 15

Merger Talk Propels Drug Stocks

SmithKline and American Home Discuss Creating an Industry Giant

By Tom Buerkie

LONDON - Stock prices of major international drug companies soared Tuesday in anticipation of a new round of takeover activity after SmithKline Beecham PLC said it was discussing a possible merger with American Home

Products Corp.

The combination, if completed, would create the world's largest pharmaceutical company and underscore the

intensifying pressure for economies of scale in the industry.

In 1996, the two companies sold a combined \$14.4 billion of prescription drugs, compared with \$13.5 billion for the market leader, Giaxo Wellcome PLC, itself the product of a 1995 acquisition by Glaxo PLC. Just behind are Merck & Co. of the United States and Novartis AG of Switzerland, formed by the merger in 1996 of Sandoz AG and Ciba-Geigy AG.

The announcement will "make everyone think twice" about possible mergers in the drugs industry, said Stephen Putnam of Dresdner Kleinwort Benson.
Globalization has been a leading

factor in a surge of merger activity, which soared 50 percent in 1997 to a record \$1 trillion in the United States alone, and the trend is felt acutely in the pharmaceutical business.

With the cost of developing a pre-scription drug escalating into the hun-dreds of millions of dollars, companies are eager to combine their research-anddevelopment efforts and sales activities

development efforts and sales activities to cut costs and increase the prospects of discovering a top-selling drug. Novartis executives said the company was on track to save 2 billion Swiss francs (\$1.33 billion) by the end of 1999.

Mr. Putnam said the savings for SmithKline and American Home Products would be particularly large because they operated in similar product lines but had little overlap in specific drug categories, He estimated the potential savings at as much as £1 billion (\$1.64 billion) a year, or 10 percent of costs in common business areas.

SmithKline shares rose as high as \$15

SmithKline shares rose as high as 815 pence on the oews before retreating to close at 748, np 5. In New York, American Home Products surged 15 percent to close at \$93.0625, up \$12.375.

[At that price, American Home would be worth about \$52 billion, The Associated Press reported, which would make such a merger the largest one yet, eclipsing the \$37 billion in stock that WorldCom Inc. is paying for MCI Communications Corp.]
The London Stock Exchange promp-

ted SmithKline to make the announcement after its stock rose more than 20 percent, from 626 pence Jan. 12.

Although American Home is slightly larger, with an estimated 3.5 percent of the global market for prescription drugs against 2.8 percent for SmithKline, analysts said it was more vulnerable because its sales growth was slower and the company had fewer drugs under develop-ment. American Home's biggest drug is Premarin, a hormone-therapy drug for

post-menopausal women. It also sells the over-the-counter pain reliever Advil.

SmithKline's leading products include the anti-depressant Paxil and the antibiotic Augmentin.

Prospects for a deal could be clouded by potential legal liabilities stemming from Pondimin and Redux, diet pills that American Home pulled from sale in the United States last year because of a risk of heart-valve damage. Antitrust regulators also might press for divestment of vac-cine lines, the one area where the companies have significant product overlap.

other takeover speculation centered on such drugmakers as Zeneca Group PLC, a cancer therapy leader that is vulnerable because of its relatively small size, and Bristol-Myers Squibb Co., which is seen as having slower growth prospects. Zeneca shares jumped 92 pence to £23.77, and Bristol-Myers Squibb rose \$3.1875 to finish at \$96.625. Among other drug stocks. Glaxo Wellcome rose 38 pence to £16.77, and Novartis rose 34 Swiss francs to 2,440.

U.S.-Japan Deal on 'Open Skies' Nears

By Laurence Zuckerman
New York Times Service

NEW YORK - American and Japanese negotiators have agreed on the broad outlines of a deal that would increase the oumber of flights between the two countries and liberalize travel across the Pacific, according to airline executives and Clinton administration officials.

But the two sides, which opened a new round of talks Tuesday in Washington, still face issues that could make a final agreement in the loog-running trade dispute elusive.

"You oever know what happens in a negotiation," said a senior administra-tion official. "But things are closer than they have ever been."

The biggest dispute holding up the agreement, sources on the U.S. side said, is Japan's resistance to allowing American carriers to team up with other airlines, both foreign and domestic, to offer flights to Japan and on to other destinations in Asia, Socb so-called code-sharing would allow a U.S. carrier to sell a ticket, say, to Singapore by flying a passenger to Tokyo and then transferring the passenger to a Singapore Airlines flight.

Under the terms of the proposed deal

Under the terms of the proposed deal, Northwest, United Airlines and Federal Express Corp. — the three carriers that have the most rights to fly to Japan would receive virtually unlimited access to the country. In addition, about 90 new flights a week to Tokyo and Osaka would be divided among American Airlines

Inc., Delta Air Lines Inc. and Continental Airlines Inc. - which are allowed only a few flights to Japan — as well as to two airlines that now do not fly to Japan.

In exchange, All Nippon Airways, Japan's second-largest airline, would

receive unlimited rights to fly to the United States, joining Japan Airlines.

Critics say that the proposed deal does oot challenge the Japanese government's payment to control token. ernmeot's power to cootrol ticket prices, which protects its relatively inefficient airlines by preventing the U.S. carriers from competing by offering lower prices. They also say that the U.S. negotiators have given All Nippon Airways unfettered access to the United States without insuring that American carriers will receive space to land at Tokyo's Narita Airport.

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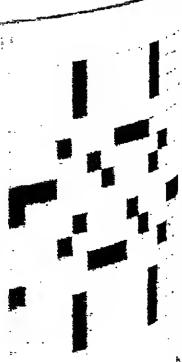
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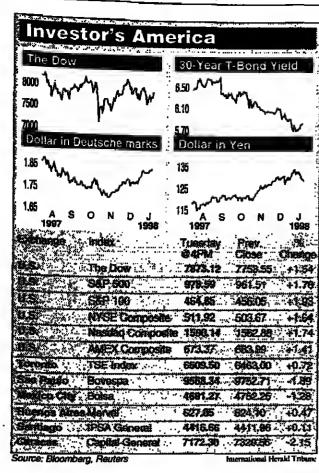


Onick Rise

Key Money Rates

CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES

THE AMERICAS



Very briefly:

• Valores Industriales SA of Mexico plans to buy all the shares it doesn't already own of the bottling company Fomento Economico Mexicano SA, or Fernsa, and assume Fernsa's name. Valores Industriales, known as Visa, owns 51 percent of

 Hicks, Muse Tate & Furst and Kohlberg Kravis Roberts & Co. agreed to jointly acquire Regal Cinemas Inc. in a \$1.5 billion deal that would create the world's largest movie-

• United Parcel Service Inc. and the Independent Pilots Association reached agreement on a contract aimed at keeping the package-delivery giant's 2,100 pilots flying until 2004.

 Apria Healthcare Group Inc. said Jeremy Jones had stepped down as chairman and chief executive in a man-agement shakeup after the bome health-care provider lowered its earnings target.

• Qwest Communications Inc. plans a 2-for-1 split of the telephone company's shares, which have almost tripled in value since its initial public offering in June 1997.

 The financier Carl Icahn, one of the principal bondholders negotiating with Brooke Group Ltd. over interest payments on some bonds, agreed to buy a stake in the company, according to a regulatory filing.

Bloomberg. Reuters, AP

Smith Expands Into Oil Drilling

HOUSTON - Smith International Inc. said Tnesday that it would buy Wilsoo Industries Inc., a closely held distributor of oil-drilling products and services, for \$483 million in stock and assumed debt.

A drilling-equipment maker based in Houston, Smith agreed to issue 7.9 million shares of its stock and assume \$65 million of Wilsoo debt in a tax-free transaction. The acquisition will oot lead to job cuts, a Smith executive said.

AMEX

Tuesday's 4 P.M. Close

The 300 most traded stocks of the day,

up to the closing on Wall Street.

Brazil Gives Its Currency Room to Slip

By Mitchell Martin International Herald Tribune

NEW YORK - A weakening currency forced Brazil to change the trading band in which its currency is permitted to fluctuate against the dollar on Tuesday, an effective devaluation of the real.

The central bank changed the band it targets for the dollar to 1.12 to 1.22 real, Bridge News reported from Sao Paulo, up from the 1.05to-1.14 real range that had been in place since February 1997.

At 4 P.M. in New York, the dollar was quoted at 1.1201 real, up from

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

1.1196 real Monday. Brazil has been allowing its currency to depreciate at a rate of about 7.5 percent a year, but because of the economic turmoil in Asia, the real has actually been considered overvalued, said James Barrineaux, a senior analyst t Salomon Smith Barney.

Mr. Barrineaux added that the shift of currency bands was meant as a signal that the government was sticking to its economic plan. He added that an interest-rate increase late last year was likely to slow economic growth for the first half of 1998, which would reduce the comtry's appetite for imports and help maintain the value of its currency.

With the events in Asia putting ressure on the economies of developing countries around the world Mr. Barrineaux said the concern among investors was that Brazil would be pressured to allow a more rapid devaluation than the 7.5 percent target. Although this would be good for its exporting companies, it would burt foreign investors and harm the purchasing power of Brazilians be-fore elections this year, he said.

■ Dollar Falls Against Yen

The dollar eased against the yen on hopes that the Japanese government was ready to take action to resone the sagging economy. Market News reported from New York.

But analysts said concrete action the eighth-largest property-casualty from Japan would have to come soon to keep the yen supported. The dollar fell to 128.495 yen in 4 deal a merger.
But the new entity will he called

P.M. trading from 129.250 yen Fri-day. It edged up to 1.8395 Deutsche

But the new entity will be called St. Paul Cos, and will continue to be marks from 1.8330 DM and to 6.1575 French francs from 6.1415 to \$1.6270 from \$1.6335.

Asia Lands on Bottom Line at Big U.S. Banks

Complet by One Staff From Disputcher

foreign exchange losses hit their bottom lines. J.P. Morgan & Co. took the hardest hit, with earnings falling to \$271 million in the quarter

from \$419 million a year ago. The results were far below analysts' expectations, and the company's stock fell \$1.625 to close at \$105.25. Morgan said regular payments were not being made on about \$587 million in loans to

Asian entities.

Citicorp announced that \$250 million had been shaved off its quarterly income.

It was anything but a normal quarter, 'said the firm's abstract but a normal quarter.' the firm's chairman, John Reed.

While the bank's profit rose to \$1.06 billion from \$987 million a year earlier. Ciocorp had buge one-time gains from the sale of investment securities and redemption of venture capital.

Chase Manhattan Corp., the biggest U.S. bank, said ir earned a net \$874 million in the quarter, up from \$836 million a year earlier, but that operating profit fell because of lower trad-ing income. The bank did not give details about its exposure to Asia.

Chase said it had a loss of \$78 million from trading, compared with a gain of \$286 million a year earlier. It also said its credit costs had risen 15 percent, to \$208 million.

The bank's shares were up \$1.5625 at the close, at \$107.0625.

In Asia and other emerging markets, U.S.

"Discretionary gains covered up what could traders in derivatives, which are used to hedge NEW YORK — Big U.S. banks said Tuesday that they had been hurt in the fourth quarter by the financial crisis in Asia, as trading and George Salem, a bank analyst at Gerard Klauer George Salem, a bank analys fluctuate wildly when markets go awry, as they Mattison & Co. "Asia hit them pretty good."

Citicorp's shares fell 75 cents to end at have in Asia and elsewhere in recent menths. (Bridge News, AP, Rleamherg)

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Microsoft

 $\sqrt{n} = 2\pi n \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{n}$

ben, ...

Smith 25

Moody's Sours on European Banks

Moody's Investors Service Inc. said that more European banks could see their credit ratings put on review or lowered, particularly if the effects of the Asia crisis broaden further, Agence France-Presse reported from Paris.

The process of assessing the impact of the East Asian crisis on Europe's financial institutions is still going on, and further rating actions are possible, especially if the ramifications of the crisis broaden further," Moody's said.

Pharmaceuticals Give the Market a Shot

Complled by Our Stell From Departure

NEW YORK - A round of strong earnings and expectations for consolidation in the pharmaceuticals industry sent the stock market sharply higher Tuesday.

The Dow Jones industrial average closed with a gain of 119.57 points at 7,873.12, and the Standard & Poor's 500 index ended 17.08 points higher at 978.59. Gaining issues out-numbered losing ones by a 9-to-5 ratio on the New York Stock Exchange.

Drug stocks surged after Smith-Kline Beecham said it was discussing a possible merger with American Home Products, which finished 12% higher at 93 1/16.

Even though drug companies are quite large in size, they are not immune to takeover bids," said Al-

The Associated Press

Cos. said Tuesday that it bad agreed

to bay USF&G Corp. of Baltimore

in a \$3.5 billion deal that will create

The companies are calling the

insurer in the United States.

based in St. Paul.

ST. PAUL, Minnesota - St. Paul

fred Kugel, senior investment earnings. Northwest rose % to 52% strategist at Stein Roe & Farnham. after reporting net profit of \$105.4 He named Warner-Lambert as a

Warner-Lambert rose 9.3/16 to ted the bottom line.

U.S. STOCKS close at 138 5/16. Merck led the

Dow higher, rising 61/2 to 1151/2. Pfizer rose 3% to 80%, getting an added lift from strong earnings. The company said fourth-quarter net income rose to \$558 million from of higher sales of anti-cholesterol

and heart drugs and an antibiotic. Transportation stocks also were strong after Northwest Airlines and Continental Airlines reported strong

St. Paul to Absorb USF&G in Stock Swap

Mr. Leatherdale said that the ma-

jority of the job cuts will probably be

made in Baltimore, but that the new

company is expected to remain "an

billion. The combined company will

have at least \$9 billion in revenue.

provide us the platform to be one of

the major survivors in this in-

Jan. 20, 1998

High Low Lotest Coge Opins

The deal will increase St. Paul's assets to about \$36 billion, from \$21

'We certainly expect this will

employer of significance" there.

lap, the companies said.

million in the fourth quarter, up from \$26 million a year carlier. possible acquisition target. "I from \$26 million a year earlier, wouldn't sell a share of it," he said. Cost-cutting and higher revenue lif-

Continental rose 31/2 to 521/4 after reporting a 55 percent profit increase, to \$73 million.

IBM led technology shares higher, rising 21/2 to 1071/2 on expectations for the company to report strong earnings. After the close, IBM said it earned a net \$2.1 billion in the fourth quarter, up from \$2 \$504 million a year earlier because billion a year earlier. Revenue rose 3 percent, but it would have risen & percent if the rising dollar had not eroded the value of sales abroad.

Lucent Technologies rose 51/2 to 80 13/16. The company said its net

St. Paul Cos., the nation's 13th-

In late trading Tuesday, shares in

will swap its stock for that of

\$83.875, USF&G shares were up \$2

continue to use the USF&G brand

USF&G, the 22nd largest.

profit fell to \$792 million from \$859 million, mostly because of a \$427 million charge for the acquisition of Livingston Enterprises. Without the charge, the company's results beat analysts expectations.

Hilton Hotels rose 15/16 to 31 9/ 16 after the company said its op-erating profit rose to \$65 million from \$49 million a year earlier as strong demand for hotel rooms allowed it to raise rates.

link after some of the biggest U.S. banks and brokerages offered more evidence that the worst of Asia's economic crisis may not be fully realized. J.P. Morgan, Merrill Lynch and Citicorp all said the Asia crisis had clipped profits. "Down the road, it's going to be

But financial stocks were a weak

hard for many of these companies to have the earnings growth that they used to." particularly banks and brokerages, said Elizabeth Miller, a portfolio manager at Trevor Stewart Burton & Jacobsen.

Declining interest rates, which About 1.500 to 2,000 of the two companies' combined 16,500 jobs will be eliminated because of over-highly competitive marketplace." have been good for that sector. won't be enough," she added.

In the Treasury bond market, the price of the benchmark 30-year is-sue was down 10/32 point, taking largest property-casualty insurer. the yield up to 5,83 percent from 5.84 percent Friday. Philip Morris fell 1 11/16 to 43%

St. Paul Cos. were up \$5.75 at as Minnesota's trial of tobacco companies began. The trial could be the first legal showdown over public money spent on smoking-related ill-The new company might also nesses; three other states have settled name for certain products or cor-porate divisions, St. Paul officials Holdings fell 15/16 to 35 7/16. cases out of court. RJR Nabisco (AP. Bloombere)

Latest Chgo Opini

St. Paul's chief executive, francs, but it slipped to 1.4958 Swiss Douglas Leatherdale, will remain as francs from 1.4977. The pound rose its chairman and chief executive of-

Law Latest Orga MARSE ! TO STANDARD TO THE STANDARD ST **AMEX**

105497 93% 98681 10% 7777_48 7874_87 7748_94 7873_17 +119_57 3307_94 3344_32 3289_82 3364_52 +74_54 914 | 1044 + 17 m Company S Philipping S Boeing S Lucard NewsCorp USFG Merck A13.7 Philipping S IBM 5 IBM 5 IBM 5 IBM 6 Gantillact Gantillact Gantillact 954 98 144 145 7794 75542 104 1145 446 2846 44 440 14 14 17 14 17 15 114 357

U. S. STOCK MARKET DIARY

STOCK SPLIT
CBT Gep AIDS 2 for 1 split.
King World Pricts 2 for 1 split.
Quest Commun 2 for 1 split.
SLH Corp 2 for 1 split.

INTERNATIONAL FUTURES

at \$23,4375.

10-YEAR FRENCH GOV. BONDS (MATTIF)
FF300.000 v. pix of 100 pc7
Mcr 90 103.1s 102.90 100.00 + 0.14 129,144
Jun 91 102.46 102.30 102.32 + 0.14 2,591
Gel. select 42.50

EURODOLLAS (C.MER)

51 million-los of 100 pct.

Feb 78 94.42 94.40 94.40 -0.0

Mar 78 94.41 94.73 94.41 94.71

Jun 78 94.51 94.45 94.75 94.46 40.0

Dec 78 94.49 94.71 94.42 40.0

Mar 79 94.49 94.41 94.43 40.0

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Dec 79 94.49 94.41 94.43 40.0

Dec 79 94.49 94.41 94.43 40.0

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Sep 99 94.33 94.27 94.24 40.0

Sep 90 94.33 94.27 94.24 40.0

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First open int 2692.171, off 16.403

BRITISIN POUND (CMER)
62.500 pounds, 5 per pound
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Mary 98 1.4240 1.6136 1.4218 4.0000
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Sep 78 1.6240 1.6120 4.646

CARLADIAN DOLLAR CCMERI
100.000 dollar, 5 per Cdn. dir.
Mary 98 .4982 .4947 .4953 4.0022
Jan 78 .4982 .4947 .4953 4.0022
Sep 78 .4982 .4992 .4773 4.0022
Est. solve 9.222 First solve 5.938
First open first 6.238, up 538

GERMAN MARK (CMER)
125,000 morica, 5 per morik
Mary 98 .5385 .5461 .5469 -0.0225
Jun 76 .5075 .5070 .5075 -0.0226
Sep 78 .5476 .5590 .5075 -0.0226
Sep 78 .5476 .5476 .5076 .00226
Sep 78 .5476 .5476 .00226
Sep 78 .5476 .00226

MEXICAN PESO (CAER) 50,000 PMOS, 5 per peso Mar 78 ...11990 ...11860 ...11840+.00106 Jun 98 ...11870 ...11860 ...11842+.00142 Sep 98 ...11165 ...11160 ...11165+.00246 Est solus 3.539 Frits soles 3.377 Frits open int 27,530, up 27,529

Prev. open Int.: 762.893 off 16.735

3-MONTH BURONARK GUFFE)
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Feb 98 96.41 94.37 96.46 —0.07 4.8
How 99.537 96.25 96.25 —0.02 35
JUN 99 96.25 96.25 96.25 —0.02 35
JUN 99 96.25 96.25 96.20 —0.02 24
Dec 19 96.25 96.15 96.11 86.13 —0.02 24
Dec 19 96.25 96.25 96.26 —0.02 24
Marr 97 95.88 95.48 96.86 —0.07 23
Est. soles: 155.463. Prev. soles: 152.465
Prev. Open Int. 1,828,137 up 12.336

2.MONTH PIBOR (MATIF)
FF5 DIBION vits of 100 pct
Feb 16 96.27 96.25 96.36 —0.03
JUN 98 96.25 96.27 96.36 —0.03
JUN 98 96.25 96.27 96.36 —0.03
JUN 98 96.25 96.36 —1.03
JUN 98 96.35 96.17 96.17 96.17
Dac 18 96.55 96.39 96.98 +0.01 26
Est. soles: 25.590.

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Residential Real Estate

COFFEE C (NCSE)

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ine at Big U.S. Banks

the Market a Shot

EUROPE

remain to be delivered.

EU Authorities See Concession From Microsoft

BRUSSELS - Microsoft Corp. might amend exclusive contracts with European Internet service providers in re-

sponse to antitrust complaints, the European Union's top com-petition official said Tuesday. The EU announced in October that it was investigating the company's marketing arrangements with the service

providers. Karel Van Miert, the Union's competition commissioner, said he expected a written pledge from Microsoft to alter cuotracts tying 24 Internet providers to the company's Explorer software, which allows users to browse the Internet. "Microsoft seems prepared to offer, in due time, remedies so it won't be necessary for the commission to hring the case to a

John Frank, legal counselor for Microsoft Europe, confirmed that the company would change its contracts with the service providers to meet EU competition concerns.

Antitrust anthorities in the United States are investigating Microsoft's alleged practice of forcing computer makers to include Explorer as a condition of licensing Windows 95. (Bloomberg, Reuters)

final decision," he said.

ning at record levels in Germany and Prance. Joblessness is the biggest political problem for both Prime Minister Lionel Jospin of France, the Socialist who was forced to use riot police last week to subdue protests

By Edmund L. Andrews

New York Times Service

Though the ultimate magninide of Asia's impact remains a guessing

game, the trouble signs have been

proliferating, and analysts are hast-

ily trimming predictions of econom-

ic growth that they made as recently

The new problems come at a bad

time. Booming exports have been

the only bright spot for Germany

and France, Europe's two biggest

economies, and government leaders

there have been counting on exports to fuel the first solid economic

growth in years. Any slowdown would be likely to add to unem-

ployment, which, at well over twice

the rate in the United States, is run-

as Christmastime.

by unemployed workers, and Chancellor Helmnt Kohl of Germany. To the surprise of many economists, the ranks of Germany's unemployed jumped by B further 200,000 people last month, to 4.5

million, or 11.8 percent. Economists companies were being hit in at least

two ways. The first was through carrier ordered. Airbus officials said The Washington Post reported.] reduced exports to Asian countries, because devaluations of Asian cur-FRANKFURT - Asia's finanrencies had abruptly eliminated cial crisis is starting to affect much of their buying power and the slowdown had already led several Europe, slowing down exports of everything from heavy machinery to Asian countries to put off planned telephones and worsening what development projects. Still, Southwere already gloomy prospects for reducing joblessness this year.

The South Korean conglomerate Daewoo Corp. last week suspended east Asia accounts for less than 5 percent of European exports. plans to construct a pair of factories in The second and potentially more northern France that would have creserious impact is in the form of price ated about 1,000 jobs. Separately, a

statistical signs that the effects of the Asian crisis

Bevond anecdotal evidence, economists see

Asia Crisis Hurts Europe by Slowing Exports

are spreading, as analysts trim growth predictions. ressure. Recause Asian currencies have fallen sharply in value, products from such countries as South Korea are far more competitive in world markets. That makes it difficult for European or American companies to raise prices, at home

or abroad, and is likely to dampen the appetite for investment and The impact has already shown up

at some companies.

Deutsche Telekom AG added \$412 million to its provisions Friday to cover possible losses on investments in Southeast Asia. The German telephone giant owns stakes in telecommunication companies in Malaysia, Indonesia and the Phil-

Airbus Industrie, the European airpercent. craft consortium, has been trying to nations' gross domestic product, said European collect money from Garuda Indone- while U.S. banks have lent the sian Airways for three airplanes the equivalent of 0.4 perceot of GDP,

South Korea has recommended delaying completion of a high-speed train line, raising fears that part of a \$2.1 billion contract for the French-British builder of the TGV trains, GEC Alsthorn, could be in jeopardy.

Meanwhile, Moody's Investors Service Inc. warned late last week that it might lower its credit ratings oo two big French banks and seven other European banks. All of these banks have big portfolios of Asian loans, though several said that their potential losses were small if oot oegligible and that the warnings were unnecessary.

[Salomon Smith Barney estimates that European banks have outstanding loans to troubled Asian nations equaling 2 percent of the European

Garuda had paid for and received six Beyond anecdotal evidence. economists say there are statistical of nine aircraft that it ordered several years ago. But in December, Garuda signs that the effects of the Asian failed to come up with \$8 million in crisis are spreading. Salomon Smith payments on the three planes that Barney has trimmed its growth estimate for the 11 European Union member countries that are expected to form the single European currency, the euro, next year to 2.6 percent from about 3 percent.

Analysts said Germany could feel the biggest impact because it had always been a big exporter of heavy machinery and capital equipment precisely the kind of products used in the big government-sponsored development projects that Asian countries are delaying or canceling. A hint of trouble came this month

when Bonn reported that the volume of foreign orders for German goods had declined substantially for the second consecuove month. After soaring more than 20 perceot through last August, as a surge in the dollar made German products cheaper in many markets, foreign orders declined by 3.7 percent in October

and 2.9 percent in November. UBS Securities, in a report headlined "Asia Bites," revised its economic forecast for Germany, predicting that exports and profitability in general would be hurt by the Asia

"Uodoubtedly, Germany's share in global exports will suffer," said Ralf Kugelstadt, a UBS ecocomist in Frankfurt

Nonetheless, the Asian troubles are not expected to derail Europe's plan for the curo to be introduced Jan, 1.

Investor's Europe Frankfurt DAX London **Paris** FTSE 100 Index CAC 40 3100 2900 4850 ' TY 2700 3500 A S O N D J 1997 1997 Exchange Index Close 949.86 Amsterdam 2,517.49 2,510.60 +0.27 BEL-20 Brussels DAX 4,307.91 4,284.94 +0.54 Frankfurt Copenhagen Stock Market 700.59 701.82 **HEX General** 3,464.72 3,444,55 +0.59 OBX 666.D3 656.49 5.278.20 5.273.60 +0.09 Landon FTSE 100 Stock Exchange 682.08 18274 3,008.34 2,986.95 +0.72 **CAC 40** Stockholm SX 16 3,254.21 3,244.95 +0.29 1,320.26 1,288.44 +2.47 Vienna -3,963.05 3,932.35 +0.78

Very briefly:

• Didier-Werke AG expects to post a 1997 loss because of reorganization costs at its U.S. subsidiary, Narco, and losses in Asia. But the German maker of fireproofing materials still plans to pay a dividend of 2 Deutsche marks (\$1.09) for the year, unchanged from 1996.

 ABB Asea Brown Boveri Ltd. won a \$660 million order to build a power plant in Taiwan, raising hopes that the Swiss-Swedish industrial company will be less affected by Asia's upheavals than investors had feared.

 Scandioavian Airlioes System bought 100 percent of Air Botnia of Finland to try to streogtheo its presence in that country. The price was not disclosed.

 The European Unioo's competition commissioner, Karel Van Miert, said he was near an agreement with British Airways PLC and AMR Corp., parent of American Airlines. oo the amount of access to London's Heathrow Airport they should give up to win EU approval of their planned alliance.

 The European Commission plans to investigate the merger of accounting firms KPMG Peat Marwick and Ernst & Young in parallel with a full inquiry into a rival alliance betweeo Price Waterhouse and Coopers & Lyhrand.

 Daimler-Benz Aerospace AG's chief executive, Manfred Bischoff, said he expected the restructuring of the Airhus Industrie consortium into a limited-liability company to be completed on time by the start of 1999. The European jetmaking group also includes Aerospatiale of France, British Aerospace and Construcciones Aeronauticas SA of Spain.

 Barclays Baok PLC plans to reorganize its businesses by April into four divisions: retail financial services, corporate banking, investment banking and asset management.

Britaio's total production of passenger cars last year rose by
11.832 to a record 1.697.966, and the proportion of output

Reduced Raises Buy a No-Layoff Pledge at Opel

RUESSELSHEIM, Germany -Adam Opel AG pledged Tuesday oot to lay off any workers for five years in return for lower-than-expected raises, but the German unit of General Motors Corp. said it would

trim 4,000 jobs through attrition. Employees agreed to forgo 1.25 percentage points of already agreedupon pay increases during the period in return for the no-layoffs deal through 2002. For example, their 2.5 percent raises this year are to be GM Ope man wor

spend 1.2 hillico Deutsche marks unit and Europe's second-largest makers in this regard. Opel certainly (\$651 million) to opdate production carmaker, needs to cut costs to more has to significantly improve its profacilities at two sites in Germany.

"This is a contract that gives employees a clear perspective and higher job security," said David Herman, Opel chief executive.

GM is trying to stop a decline in its profit in Europe, where the U.S. antomaker had a loss of \$21 million in the third quarter of 1997 even as German automakers reported record profits. GM last year began looking for ways to cut costs at its Opel and halved. In exchange for the job cuts, Vauxhall units, in part to pay for a Volkswagen," said Klaus-Juergen Ruesselsheim, Kaiserslautern and which represent about 9 percent of \$2.7 billion plan to expand in Asia, Melzner, an analyst at Deutsche Bochum, and raise the hiring of ap-

effectively compete with Volks- doctivity and product quality." wagen AG, Europe's largest carmaker, which is bringing new models out faster and more cheaply than

its U.S.-owned rival. Opel's employee representative, Rudolf Mueller, said it was difficult for workers to accept a lower raise. He said the concessions would save the company \$28 millioo a year.

"We've seen agreements like this before, from Ford, Mercedes and

The company and employees also agreed oo arrangements to enable older workers to switch to part-time work at 85 percent of their full-time wages rate. Opel workers also said they would be more flexible in working in accordance with prodoction demands and agreed to tie their Christmas bonuses to decreases in absenteeism. In return, Opel plans to safeguard output in

Profit for 1997

Snecma to Post

PARIS - The French aircraft engine maker Snecma SA said Tuesday that it expected a oet profit of slightly more than 500 millioo francs (\$81 millioo) for 1997, its first profit in seven years.

Sales rose 23 percent, to 23 billion francs, as the company benefited from a surge in aircraft sales. The state-owned company, which equips Airhus Industrie and Boeing Co. planes, also said that it anticipated stronger sales and profit

	which represent about 9 percent of \$2.7 billion plan to expand GM Opel's 46,200-member Ger- lman work force, Opel said it would Opel, GM's principal of the control of the	America. Morean Grenfell. "Onel is strag- prentices by 15 perce	ipated stronger sales and profit in 1998.	11,832 to a record 1,697,966, and the proportion of output allocated for exports rose to 57 percent from 54 percent 1996. Bloomberg, Reute
•	WORLD STOCK MARKETS	High Low Close Prev. High Low Clase Prev.	High Low Close Prev. High Low Close Prev.	The Trib Index Prices as of 3 00 P.M. New York time
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12 Month High Low Stock

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Tuesday's 4 P.M. Close The 2,600 most traded stocks of the day. prices not reflecting late trades

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Big Three Automakers Go Shopping for Deals in Asia

By Robyn Meredith

DETROIT - The major U.S. automakers have been kicking the tires of auto companies

Tempted by fire-sale prices brought oo by the collapse of Asian currencies, by marketopening agreements being wrought by the International Monetary Fund and by a long-term desire to capture more of the Asian market, General Motors Corp in particular bas been looking for stakes to buy in strug-

gling companies there.

"We're clearly getting more aggressive on it because there's more opportunity." said Donald Sullivan, presideot of GM's Asian and Pacific operations. "We're looking at selectively possibly taking pieces" of East Asian automakers, he said.

Ford Motor Co. and, to a lesser extent, Chrysler Corp., have also been exploring buy-ing opportunities created by the crisis in Asia bot have not moved as aggressively as GM.
Nevertheless, Ford's executives have

already fanned out in Seoul, looking for opportunities. "We've been there," said John Devine. Ford's chief financial officer. 'We're watching everything."

Chrysler, the smallest of Detroit's Big currencies across the region have plunged in Three, has been closely watching the manetivering from the sidelines while continuing little more cantious than our competition" about the opportunities in Asia, said Thomas Stallkamp, Chrysler's president.

Long before the current economic troubles, GM and Ford each developed strategies to capture 10 percent of the East Asian market during the next decade. Only a year ago, their goals looked stubbornly optimistic in markets where Japanese automakers already had es-tablished strong footholds. The American automakers planned to grow by continuing to build new factories in the region.

But the Asian economic crisis presents an opportunity for the Americans to catch up quickly by buying or forming strategic alliances with the region's antomakers.

Before the crisis began, few Asian aoto or auto-parts makers were interested in being bought out, but oow many are motivated sellers. Some are bankrupt, others are short of the money they need to keep running their businesses, and still others are increasingly worried that their home markets are evaporating as consumers flee showrooms.

All are cheap in dollar terms, now that

It doesn't hurt that American anto compato expand in South America instead. "We're a nies have been stashing away cash in preparation for the next economic downtum in the United States. At the end of the third quarter, GM had \$14.6 billioo in cash and marketable securities, Ford had \$19.3 billion, and Chrysler had \$7.6 billion.

Already, GM has confirmed it has held talks with Daewoo Motor Corp. of South Korea, and Ford is weighing how to best protect its 9.4 percent stake in Kia Motors Corp., another Korean automaker.

So far, Ford has not considered taking over Kia, said Alex Trouman, Ford's chairman and chief executive officer. "We haven't been deeply involved in how Kia is restructured,' Mr. Trotman said. "Our interest really is to protect our 9.5 percent share." Ford also owns percent of Mazda Motors Corp., which holds a further 7.5 percent of Kia.

Chrysler is continuing its cautious tack in Asia. In the past few years, Chrysler has favored increasing its investments in South America rather than in Asia because of concerns about the difficulties of doing business in Asia, with its heavy import restrictions and other policies that favor local automakers.

Indeed, the IMF has been struggling to persuade Asian leaders to drop some protectionist policies and has recently made progress. As part of its package of aid, South Korea has agreed to drop some trade barriers. And after months of resistance, President Suharto of Indonesia agreed, as part of a deal with the IMF this month, to drop tax breaks for a car program run by bis son.

Automakers have responded to the political changes. GM said Friday it would make new investments in Indonesia now that Mr. Suharto had agreed to drop the tax exemptions.

This month, GM bought out Mr. Suharto's half-brother Bapak Probosutedjo's 40 perceot stake in General Motors Buana Indonesia, which builds vehicles there. "The purchase reflects GM's commitment to Indonesia and its confidence in the long-term prospects of the automotive industry bere," GM said. But despite the current attractions of

companies in Asia, there are soll plenty of problems. Most of the potential takeover targets have enormous debt loads, expect their sales in plummet for the next year or two and have complicated ownership ries. And of course the region remains in financial chaos, which coold worsen markedly or produce political instability.

Investor's Asia Hong Kong Singapore Straits Times Tokyo Nikkei 225 Hang Seng 18500 17000 15500 14000 Exchange Prev. Change Close Hong Kong . Hang Seng 9,433.70 9,400.42 +0.35 Singapore Straks Times 1,296.91 1,327.18 2,639.40 2,650.70 -0.43 All Ordinaries Nikkel 225 16,365.53 16,262.04 +0.64 Tokyo Kuala Lumpur Composite 585.35 589.08 420.72 SET 413.79 Composite Index 533.55 528.77 +0.90 Stock Market Index 7,907.68 7,847.52 +0.77 1.773.86 1.771.89 +0.11 439.03 448.04 2.257.A5 2.236.73 +0.93 NZSE-40 3,455.95 3,480.86 0.72

Hong Kong Telecom to End Its Monopoly 8 Years Early

HONG KONG — Hong Kong Telecommunications Ltd. said Tuesday it would surrender its monopoly on international telephone calls eight years ahead of schedule in return for 6.7 billion Hong Kong dollars (\$866 million) in cash from the government and the right to raise rates on local calls.

For Telecom, which is controlled by Cable & Wireless PLC of Britain, the agreement ends years of uncertainty over its most profitable business. The payment, which it will receive in two installments, will enable it to expand in the region as its share of Hong Kong's market shrinks. With a more certain regulatory

environment, Hong Kong Telecom can focus on developing its existing services," said the company's chief executive, Linus Cheung. "Due to the recent financial tur-

moil, many attractive investment opportunities have arisen, and we're exploring these investment opportunities," he added. Telecom's shares closed up 45

shares of Cable & Wireless closed

up 7.5 pence, at 508.5 (\$8.32).

cations markets by 2000 and brings Hong Kong into line with other regional governments that have de-regulated their telephone markets in recent years.

"We expect increased competitiveness for Hong Kong," said Alex Arena, a consultant to the government and its former chief telecommunications policymaker.

Hong Kong consumers will save least 17 billion dollars through 2006 as competition forces companies to cut prices, Mr. Arena said.
The agreement allows Telecom to

raise monthly charges for residential exchange lines in stages from 1999, with all limits being lifted after 2001. Telecom executives skirted questions about the effects the loss of the international license would have oo the company's bottom line but said they had long prepared for it.

This was why the company had been weaning itself away from reliance on revenue from international services and had diversified into other areas, they said.

"We've recognized that we will cents, at 15.60 dollars. In London, see the end of the monopoly," said David Prince, Telecom's finance director. "We have invested in our The agreement will open one of multimedia services, mobile-phone Asia's most crowded telecommuni- services." (Bloomberg, Reuters)



A GOLDEN EYE — A South Korean appraiser studying a ring turned in Tuesday in the country's gold-collection campaign. An estimated 100 tons of gold valued at more than \$1 billion was collected to help the country raise foreign currency.

Malaysia Ponders Rate Increase

Compiled by Our Staff From Departmen KUALA LUMPUR - Malaysia's interest rates may have to rise further

to rem in credit growth. Finance Min-ister Anwar Ibrahim said Tuesday. "There is certainly the possibility of an increase," Mr. Anwar said.

The opoon remains, and I think we have to accept the fact that the interest-rate policy is a oecessary part" of cootaining excessive lend-His commeots were the first such

official remarks since last week's visit by Michel Camdessus, managing director of the International Monetary Fund. The IMF chief said credit was growing too quickly and that higher rates were needed to arrest an increase in inflation after the ringgit's drop against the dollar.
Mr. Anwar declined to say how far

or how fast interest rates would increase. The central bank has pushed interest rates higher in the past six months. The benchmark three-month interbank rate rose to 9.99 percent

Tuesday from 9.52 Monday.

Mr. Anwar also said Malaysia would review its policy of awarding contracts for privatization projects through closed bidding instead of open tenders. The review represents another economic reform in response to the financial crisis that has forced Malaysia to defer many projects. (Bloomberg, AP)

Very briefly:

• Toshiba Corp. slashed its group pretax profit forecast for the year ending in March to 10 billion yen (\$78.2 million) from an earlier estimate of 95 billion yen, citing reduced growth in personal-computer sales, falling chip prices and declines in Southeast Asian currencies.

 Australia's 14 casinos had operating profits of 27.4 million Australian dollars (\$18.3 million) in the year that ended in June. dowo 86 perceot from the year before, and some have warned that Asia's financial crisis could bring profits down further. · Taiwan god Russia are expected to inaugurate direct ship

ping links before the end of the year in an effort to forge closer economic ties, a Russian official said. • The Reserve Bank of Fiji announced an immediate 20 percent devaluation of the Fiji dollar in response to a "very weak" outlook for the economy. Before the announcement.

local banks were quoting the Fiji dollar at 67 U.S. cents. • Thailand approved setting up a state-owned commercial bank, Radhaoasin Bank PLC, and two subsidiaries to manage assets of 56 debt-riddeo finance and securities companies that were closed by the government last year.

· South Korea will allow large companies for the first time to sell one-year bonds, to try to limit the damage from being required to issue looger-term bonds in a time of rising interest AFP, AP, Bloomberg, Reuters

Tokyo Raps Sony Unit on Pricing

TOKYO - Japan's anti-monopoly watchdog Toesday ordered Sony Computer Entertainment Inc., a unit of Sony Corp., to stop compolling the retail price of software for its popular PlayStation games console.

The Fair Trade Commission said Sony Computer had violated Japanese law by requiring retailers to sell software for the PlayStation machine at a fixed price. A company spokeswoman said Sony Computer had not done anything wrong and would oot accept the com-

Tokyo Suspends Plans to Break Up Finance Ministry Clinton Seeks Law

TOKYO - The governing Liberal Democratic Party and its two parliamentary allies suspended plans Tuesday to break up the Ministry of Finance that represented one of Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto's top priorities.

The parties decided instead to let the

ministry retain its role as supervisor of both the financial industry and the government's fiscal policies.

Key members of the governing party said in recent days that this would be the NTERMARE wrong time to act because the ministry was needed to belp restore the health of See Pages 46 % banks and brokers after a series of bankruptcies. Still, the failure to curtail the ministry's power spells a step backward for Mr. Hashimoto's reforms, one ana-

There's been growing concern that Hashimoto may not be capable of split-

ting the ministry, a core of his administrative reform program," Yoshinori Iwasawa an economist at Sumitomo Life Research Institute. "Today, we just confirmed it, and that's disappointing."

Support for the breakup mounted because the ministry was largely held re-sponsible for the bad loans, bribery scandals and shrinking profits plaguing the financial industry.

Critics also accused it of pushing Japan nearly into a recession through its sistence that taxes be raised last year, a move that appeared to choke off an economic recovery.

On Tuesday, Japan's central bank said economic growth remained stag-nant because of slack consumer demand. In its monthly report, the Bank of Japan also warned that the Japanese economy might suffer further from its trading

NEWSPAPERS: 'Free-Ad' Format Gets Widespread Attention

remains solely owned by its founder, Mike Abbott, who said he thought the

enterprise would foster social interaction

and create a kind of people's capitalism.

The idea was copied elsewhere in vestern Canada and California in the

1970s. It skipped much of the rest of

In gratitude, the free-ads association

North America but flowered in Europe.

links with troubled Asian neighbors. Its prolonged sluggishness prompted the U.S. ambassador, Thomas Foley, to urge Japan to do whatever was needed to pull ori of its economic slump.
"We believe a recovery in the Jap-

anese economy is extraordinarily important not only for itself bot to improve the general economic situation in Asia," Mr. Foley said. "There is a need for Japan to be an engine of growth."

Mr. Foley said he welcomed Japan's

previously announced stimulative steps, including a one-time 2 trillion yen (\$15.47 billion) income tax cut, but urged it to consider doing more.
"We bope there will be consideration

given, perhaps, in the future, to any other steps that may be deemed nec-essary to adequately move the Japanese economy forward." Mr. Foley said. (Bloomberg, Reuters)

bott declined to disclose his own profit,

but he said the industry's arithmetic was

as simple as it was sweet: A well-run

paper sells two copies for every ad it

carries and has a circulation of 25,000 to

30,000 per million population in its area and a profit margin of 20 percent.

Corporate interest in the format is

clear. Consider the fate of ooe of Boy

various formats and is majority owned

by a Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette in-

and Sell's earliest imitators, the Re-

To Ban Gene Bias

gleaned from genetic testing.

Genetic Information and the Work Force.'

Administration officials said their goal in seeking coogressional ance of the benefits of genetic testing by taking steps to assure Amer-

Mr. Clinton already has en-

In 1996, Congress passed legislation prohibiting group bealth plans from using information obtained from geoeoc tests or other sources as a basis for denying or limiting coverage for individuals or

House will request would extend

NET: Group Plans High-Speed Standard

Continued from Page 1

normal phone lines and would remain connected to the outside world at all times without the need to dial a service and without interfering with voice conversations over the same line.

Such lightning-quick access to cyberspace has traditionally been possible only in offices or over cable modems, which are available in few parts of the United States. Giving home users such fast access to the information highway could opeo the door to new sorts of services, including video over the Internet that approaches television quality.

The technology embraced by the consortium, known as digital subscriber line, or DSL, has been under development in the telecommunications industry for years but has been beld back by a lack of agreement on technical standards.

Bell Atlantic Corp., which serves local telephone customers from Virginia to Maine, is the one regional Bell company that has shied away from the Compaq-Intel-Microsoft consortium. Sources said that Bell Atlantic was leaning toward a different standard. While the company has left the door open to joining the group, it has expressed reservations about how the consortium is run. As computer users have become

more sophisticated and as the Internet has become loaded with data-heavy graphics, traditional modems - the devices that enable computers to communicate over telephone lines - have not kept pace. The cable-television industry is pinning some of its bopes for growth on cable modems, which use cable networks to give users fast access to the Internet. But only about 100,000 people have signed up for cable modems so far, according to analysts, and the service is available to only about 10 percent of U.S. homes.

Most local telephone companies currently offer high-speed data lines. But many of those options, such as ISDN, or integrated-services data network, can be cumbersome and expensive and require

installation by a technician. Microsoft has been particularly expert at playing both sides of the cabletelephone fence. Last year, it invested \$1 billion in Comcast Corp., the fourthlargest U.S. cable company and a partowner of At Home, a company that

offers Internet access over cable lines. For many years engineers and programmers believed that the copper wires that carried voice cooversations could oot compete with dedicated data networks in their ability to carry large amounts of digital information. But in recent years, advances in elec-

trical engineering have challenged that assumption. Some engineers today say that standard copper telephone wires can carry as many as 8 million bits of information a second, though the consortium is initially developing standards for moderns that can carry only 1.5 million bits a second. A bit is the smallest amount of information a computer can process, either a zero or a one. Today's fastest standard moderns are rated at 56,000 bits a second but are actually limited to transmitting 52,000 bits a second.

There are dozens of companies developing digital-subscriber-line products, though few follow the same standards. The Compaq-Intel-Microsoft consortium is relying in part on technology developed by a small Massacbusetts company called Aware Inc., though the group has not finished developing its technical protocols.

Several local phone companies have already deployed the service in limited areas around the country. U S West Inc., for instance, unveiled a digital-subscriber-line service in the Phoenix area last October. The service there requires an installation fee of about \$200 and a

monthly subscriber fee of at least \$40. That is about the same price as an At Home connection through Comcasi in northern New Jersey, although cable modems can deliver higher speeds than 1.5 million bits a second. Normal access to the Internet typ-

CLONE: U.S. Drug Agency Says It Will Hold Reins to Research

Continued from Page 1

cloning research stalled in Congress. And public fears that someone might try the feat flared anew wheo Mr. Seed said that he would seek to clone a burnan being before Congress enacts a ban. Last week, 19 European nations signed an agreement to ban human clon-

Another agency official said wouldbe cloners would have to go through the same procedure that drug companies submit to test new medicines on

The process requires researchers to prove that their proposed experiment does not pose unreasonable risk of harm to human subjects - a task that would be difficult for human cloning, given the cloning experiments. Moreover, an agency official said,

given the disputes over cloning, the agency might require public hearings as it did last year while it was considering bow to regulate the transplantation of animal organs into people.

"It should be done in the open," the official said. 'Going through the FDA regulatory pathways, everyone has a say and we face our fears in public."

Scientific groups have become concerned that some of the U.S. legislation aimed at banning buman cloning would preclude other kinds of research.

Last week, the Biotechnology Industry Organization, which represents about 750 biotechnology and academic research institutes, urged the government to assert its authority over cloning in the bope that Congress would not

rush înto a broad research ban. ■ Researchers Clone Calves

ically costs \$20 a month.

Researchers said Tuesday that they had cloned two identical, genetically eogineered calves, a step that could lead to the mass production of drugs for burnans in cows' milk, The Associated Press reported from Boston.

The male calves born last week were created through a combination of cloning and genetic engineering by researchers at the University of Massacbusetts and Advanced Cell Technology Inc.

The calves are not the first animal clones with altered genes: two lambs have a human gene expected to make them produce a protein helpful in blood clotting. But drug-making cows could be more valuable because they produce much more milk than sheep.

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Continued from Page 11

from cameras to cars and vacation homes to fitness equipment. It also had 11 pages of personal ads, almost all from people seeking relationships.
In a small section called "Message

noticeboard," ads ranged from the po-etic ("Cramped is this life at home, dusty indeed its spheres, life gone forth is wide open") to the cryptic ("suits you") to the polemical ("Politics is the shadow cast upon society by big business''). The first free-ads paper, Buy and Sell Press in Vancouver, British Columbia,

Continued from Page 1

Mr. Theismann addressed a group of

Canon Inc. copier officials in a room

also adorned with amficial turf and

bleachers. He speaks to between 70 and

80 corporations a year, usually earning

Diego, the former Notre Dame football

coach Lou Holtz will join the motiv-

ational guru Peter Lowe at the "Super

Bowl of Success," an extravaganza that promises to "help 13,000 MVPs suit up

The daylong "educational session,"

for which attendees will pay an average

of \$49 a ticket, will feature Colin Pow-

ell, Larry King, Deborah Norville and

Do such events improve morale? Ex-

perts differ. "If these things are done

with the right heart, they can be very

powerful," said Ritch Davidson, who

goes by the title of "vice emperor of fun" at Playfair, a Berkeley, California.

management consulting firm that belps

companies promote fun in their offices.

Mr. Davidson recently attended an un-

derwater-themed motivational event for

1 Silicon Valley company. The event

for the Super Bowl of life."

Next week at the Super Bowl in San

\$12,500 a speecb.

other speakers.

made Mr. Abbott its bonorary president.
"They owe me millions, those blokes," be said. "Some of these papers have changed hands for bundreds of millions

SUPER: Game Plan to Lift Firms' Morale

of dollars since 1985," when the association was founded, he said. Mr. Ab-

included "tons of inflatable fish and dîvers," be saîd. Howard Weizmann, who runs the 300-strong Washington office of Watson Wyatt Worldwide, a management consulting firm, said the purpose of the motivational exercises had changed. In the past, be said, they were geared to promote pride within an organization -

be it a division, branch or team. But recently, with low unemploy-ment rates and a shortage of skilled workers in many sectors, these events have increasingly been designed to foster good feelings about the corporation itself. "Before, it was an efficiency issue," Mr. Weizmann said.

'Now it's a retention issue."

Mr. Theismann said his football experience — a series of injuries, comebacks and triumphs — paralleled the travails of SGI, a computer workstation company based in Mountain View, California. The company recently laid off about 850 employees, has suffered a spell of poor earnings (most recently, a \$55.7 million loss in its first quarter of fiscal 1998) and has been without a leader since the October resignation of its chief executive, Edward

cycler. Born in a phone conversation during which Mr. Abbott casually advised an admirer to start a free-ads paper in Los Angeles, the Recycler oow has 10 regional editions and 35 other papers of

vestment fund.

The big buyout story, though, is Secondamano. Founded in Milan in the late 1970s, it spread to eight cities in Italy, one in Switzerland and 11 in Russia and Kazakhstan. The ex-Soviet papers turned out to be the jewels of the free-ads world - the Moscow edicon, like Loot's Loodoo flagship, went from a weekly to a daily to handle the volume - and caught the eye of Paris-based Hebdo Mag Imernational, oow a unit of

Cendant Corp. Hebdo, though best known for its paid-advertising titles such as Wheels o' Deals, already owned, co-owned or was about to own free-ads papers in Paris, Warsaw, Budapest, Amsterdam, Puerto Rico and Buenos Aires. Hebdo acquired Secondamano last January, making it easily the largest free-ads publisher. Cendant does not disclose revenue by operating divisioo, and Hebdo officials declined to say what the

company had paid in its acquisitions. The format's strongest endorsement comes from an American newspaper that bucked tradition and says it has benefited as a result. That newspaper, The Arkansas Democrat-Gazene, oow gives away more than 1 million ads a year, and its revenue from business classifieds attracted by the liveliness of the individual ads cootinues 10 rise.

Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON — The White House is asking Congress to protect Americans from workplace discrimination based on information

The initiative, which was to be unveiled Tuesday by Vice President Al Gore, will be accompanied by a Clinton administration study suggesting that the potential for misuse of genetic information will

rise significantly in coming years.
"While genetic technology increases the ability to detect and preveot bealth disorders, it can also be misused to discriminate against or stigmatize individuals." states a draft version of the report, titled

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dorsed peoding congressional legislatioo that woold preveot insurers from disclosing the results of geoetic testing or increasing the cost of group insurance based on geneoc information.

charging them more.
The new legislation the White

those protections into the workplace by prohibiting employers from using genetic testing data as a basis for discriminating against

overwhelming failure rate in animal

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WORLD ROUNDUP

Far-Ranging Tour

GOLF The 1998 European golf tour opens this week far from the Continent.

The first tournament, the Johnnie Walker Classic, opens Thursday at the Blue Canyon Country Club in Phuket, Thailand.

The tour will stage its first seven events in Thailand, Australia, South Africa, United Arab Emirates, Qatar and Morocco. It will reach European soil in March with the Portuguese Open, with the next four tournaments in Spain, France, and Italy and ending in England in May. (AP)

English Leader Loses

SOCCER A goal in the third minute by Kevin Davies lifted Southampton to a 1-0 victory over the Premier League leader, Manchester United, in the Saints' third straight home victory over the Reds. The result Monday, only Manchester United's fourth loss, prevented the champion from opening up an eight-point lead at the top of the standings and gave a glimmer

of hope to the runners-up. (AP)

Barcelona surrendered a 3-0
home lead to lose, 4-3, to Valencia on a last-minute goal by Ariel Ortega and remain second in the Span-

ish title race. (AFP)
• Renzo Ulivieri resigned Tuesday as coach of Bologna after a clash with Roberto Baggio. But the clnb's chairman, Giuseppe Gazzoni Frascara, asked him to take 24 hours to reconsider his de-cision. Ulivieri said, "I can't bear the climate" after Baggio, star of two World Cups, stormed out on the eve of a home match against Juventus because he was told to start the game on the substitutes' (Reuters)

Yankee Seeks \$9 Million

BASEBALL Bernie Williams, unable to negotiate a multiyear contract with the New York Yankees, asked for a record \$9 million salary in arbitration for what may be his final season with the team. New York countered at \$7.5 million Monday, the highest figure ever offered by a team and a raise of \$2.2

No Bonus for Quarterback FOOTBALL The Carolina Pan-

thers won't give their quarterback, Kerry Collins, a \$6 million bonus in order to keep the remaining three years of his contract intact. The Charlotte Ohserver reported Tuesday. If Collins does not receive the bonus, he could become a restricted free agent.

Wizards' Star Arrested

BASKETBALL Chris Wehher, the Washington Wizard forward, was arrested after scuffling with a police officer who had stopped him for speeding, authorities said. Webber, 24, faces several charges, including assaulting a police officer. He was to appear in court Tuesday for bond to be set. (AP)



Russia's Anna Kournikova returning Tuesday to Katarina Studenikova of Slovakia. Kournikova won, 6-2, 6-1.

Hingis Shines as Sukova Fades Out

Ivanisevic Crashes in First Round While Agassi and Chang Advance

By Robin Finn New York Times Service

MELBOURNE - Martina Hingis. who made history last year when she became the youngest Australian Open champion at the age of 16, pranced through her opening match Tuesday in the cloud-shrouded stadium in straight

But Day 2 was less forgiving to the 13th-seeded Goran Ivanisevic and the veterans Thomas Muster, twice a semifinalist here, and Helena Sukova, who twice reached this Grand Slam tournament's final. All three lost their firstround matches.

Sporting dyed brown, newly bobbed hair and matching brown contact lenses as she began the first of three Grand Slam title defenses in 1998, Hingis had no trouble subduing her German op-ponent, Wiltrud Probst, 6-1, 6-2.

Hingis seemed unconcerned by her minimal preparation for this event, an opening-round loss to Venus Williams last week in Sydney. "I'm not tired now and I'm here to win this," she said.

Ivanisevic has accused himself of lackluster performances on the Grand Slam front for the past couple of seasons, and his 6-2, 7-6 (7-3), 3-6, 6-4 upset by the 71st-ranked Jan Siemerink of the Netherlands was further evidence of the Croat's slide.

A first-round loser in three of his last four Grand Slam tournaments, Ivanisevic did not attend his obligatory post-match news conference; under new rules, he will be fined up to \$10,000 as a result.

The eighth-seeded Muster, whose career hit its zenith when he won the French Open in 1995, was uncharacteristically submissive and perilously er-ror-prone in a 6-4, 7-6 (7-5), 7-5 thrash-ing by the 243d-ranked Jan Appel, a Swedish qualifier. Though Muster, at 30 the eldest statesman of the top 10, saved three match points against the 28-yearold Appel, an errant crosscourt forehand sent him packing in the first round.

"I had a lot of unforced errors when I you owe me, and you know it."

tried to attack and put speed on the ball, and that was about it." Muster said.

The 32-year-old Sukova's 4-6.7-5.6-0 loss to 94th-ranked Anne Miller was a career-ending defeat. Though Sukova, ranked 78th, will play doubles, this match activated her retirement from

She earned 10 singles titles and holds 14 Grand Slam doubles crowns, including a 1996 Wimbledon doubles title that made history because she earned it with Hingis, then 15 and the youngest Wimhledon champion in 110 years. Michael Chang, the No. 3 American,

struggled against the 91st-ranked Ken-neth Carlsen of Denmark, but emerged victorious, 6-3, 7-6 (7-2), 5-7, 6-3. In other matches Tuesday, The As-

sociated Press reported: Patrick Rafter, the U.S. Open champion, played two astonishing points for a key break in the next-to-last game before overcoming stubhorn Jeff Tarango in the first round.

Rafter's big serve and acrobatic volleying finally prevailed over Tarango's baseline sharpshooting, 7-6 (7-4), 7-6 (7-4), 6-7 (4-7), 7-5. Some of the most devastating shots

came at 5-5 in the final set. On the first point, Rafter surprised

Tarango by chasing down shots on opposite sidelines, and pressuring the American into netting a forehand.

Two points later, he went ahead 0-40 by curling a forehand passing shot down the line on a dead run.

That almost wasn't enough. Tarango, ranked No. 58, got back to deuce on two errors by the No. 2 seed and a passing shot that he punctuated with a fist gesture toward Rafter that drew boos from the crowd.

But two Tarango errors gave Rafter the game, and he served out the match, ending with his 26th ace. Earlier in the final set, Tarango was

given an unsportsmanlike conduct warning after holding up two fingers and shouting at the umpire: "That's two

Serviced Offices

For Soccer Refugees, Ecstasy, Then Agony

Why Some Mercenaries Just Don't Fit In

By Rob Hughes
International Herald Tribune

CORING goals is like making babies: it is the ultimate purpose of a game, of life. Generally, it

makes people happy.

But to foreigners in a strange culture, the ecstasy of the moment can be dulled by the pain of not feeling really appreciated. Temur Ketsbaia and Savo Milosevic are two of soccer's modern mercenaries, players released from volatile struggles in their Geor-gian and Yugoslav homelands to make their fortunes in England.

Last Saturday, Ketsbaia scored in the 90th and final minute a goal that gave Newcastle United its first victory in nine games. The capacity 36,000 crowd reacted with turnultuous relief. Ketsbaia appeared mo-mentarily deranged: He wrenched off

EUROPEAN SOCCER

his shirt and threw it toward spectaiors. He gesticulated wildly toward the coaching bench. He kicked and kicked again at the advertising boards behind the goal.
His cyes were glazed, and his team-

Tarango said. "I was trying to be like

Andre Agassi also had to struggle

Agassi took an early 3-1 lead, but

a pit bull and hang on and scrape and

hope that an opportunity would come.

through his first-round match - against

Marzio Martelli, an Italian qualifier.

then lost five straight games to Martelli, ranked 133d, and let the second set's

second game slip away after six break

points and 11 deuces. Then he rallied for

nalist Greg Rusedski, seeded fifth, served 27 aces in beating David Witt, 7-

Gustavo Kuerten, the French Open champion who is ranked No. 12, won 6-

. 3-6. 6-3. 6-2 against Jacobo Diaz of

Spain. No. 9 Marcelo Rios trounced

Grant Stafford, 6-1, 6-0, 6-3, and No. 16

Albert Costa beat Tommy Haas, 7-617-

Tim Henman, a Wimbledon quarter-

finalist last year and ranked 18th, fought

off two match points at 6-7 in the final

set before losing, 6-3, 6-7 (3-7), 6-2, 3-

6, 11-9, in 4 hours, 19 minutes to 101st-

here the last two years, beat Barbara

Paulus, 6-2, 6-0, and No. 5 Mary Pierce.

the 1995 winner and 1997 runner-up.

For other results, see Scoreheard,

No. 3 Amanda Coetzer, a semifinalist

ranked Jerome Golmard of France.

shut out Li Fang. 6-0. 6-0.

In other matches, the U.S. Open fi-

3-6. 7-6 (7-3), 6-2, 6-2 victory.

To his credit, it didn't.

6 (7-4), 6-3, 6-4.

51, 6-2, 6-4.

mates were thrust aside as they tried to congratulate him. A man alone in the crowded theater of sport, a player losing self-control at the peak of per-

Around the same hour, 100 miles away, another of England's imports, Milosevic, incensed followers of Aston Villa, for whom he has played two seasons. He reportedly spat at some of those fans as they exercised their right to boo an acquiescent performance as they were routed, 5-0, at Blackburn Rovers. Three days previously, Mi-losevic scored the goal that kept Villa in the running for the Football Association Cup.

Hard though he tries, Milosevic does not spark empathy with the fans, Alongside Stan Collymore, England's most powerful yet brooding centerforward, they make the Odd Couple, gifted hut unreliable. Milosevic was told Tuesday that he is no longer welcome in England. A player who spits at his own team's customers - especially a foreigner - has to go.

Ketsbaia and Milosevic are among the refugees of soccer. They hail from places ruined by war, and they looked for riches and glory in the Mother Country of this increasingly international sport.

Their difficulties are not linguistic, for there are currently some 40 tongues spoken in England's erstwhile insular pastime. Their struggle to integrate is unusual because there are 157 players among the 20 major English clubs who expect to see World Cup action this summer. They must be doing something right, achieving some harmony where the pound is strong, the television image is all powerful, the agents flourish like bacteria.

The failings of Ketsbaia and Milosevic are on both sides. Their ability is more covered than their temperament, and they are not getting enough help in blending in with the natives.
Milosevic is for sale, and the soon-

er the better. He showed his hand a few weeks ago when it emerged that Atletico Madrid, which has a Serbian coach, Radomir Antic, wanted Mi-

Two things prevented a deal. At-

letico is Villa's next apparent in the UEFA Cup at the beginning of March, and you do not sell your goal scorer to the enemy. Besides, Villa publicly spelled out that Milosevic was under contract, and whatever his new fancy he would be held to a one-year option beyond this season.

Milosevic's spittle changed that. The fans, anyway enraged by the team's recent lethargy — to which Milosevic was at times the exception queued at the gates of wrath.

"Savo Milosevic should never wear a Villa shirt again," pronounced David Woodall, a club shareholder. "It's not as if he's young and in-experienced." He is 23 and a Yugoslav international.

Villa fans saw him aim his spit at them, though knowing Savo, he would probably miss anyway." Wooddall said "At least Eric Cantona attacked opposition fans. Milosevic is guilty of doing worse to his own supporters.

His departure will be by mutual consent. What, meanwhile, of Kets-

His "celebration" last Saturday was the pent-up emotions of a man absolutely desperate to find a cause and to be recognized in the colors. He will be 30 in March; time is not his friend, and when he moved from AEK Athens to Newcastle in the summer, he clearly hoped this was the big one. the move of his life.

He comes from a troubled sporting background. Georgia has long pro-duced the flair players subsumed by the old Soviet Union into the "Rus-

10DAY, there is Georgiou Kinkladze, a quixotic talent in England where he dances in the Manchester City midfield and where he a few weeks ago crashed his Fer-rari into a tree. Ketsbaia, I suspect, would like a Ferrari; he would like the chances Kinkladze has been given, the remuneration, the adoration.

At Newcastle, however, he joined a house of turmoil. Kenny Dalglish, the coach, wanted Ketshaia enough to sign him yet even in a season that has fallen apart has granted him sparse opportunity to flourish.

În Europe, Ketsbaia got one chance, scored one goal. In the Eng-lish league he had also scored once before Saturday and then, coming on 11 minutes from time as a substitute, he exploded.

His goal was a message to Dalglish. His body, now that the shirt was removed, is hoped to eye-catching muscular fitness. His desire is, well, demonic. But he knows that unless he starts 75 percent of Newcastle's games his work permit will not be renewed by the British government. It is that which provokes the show of anger and frustration.

Maybe there is a solution. Villa can release Milosevic to go where he wants, and recruit Ketsbaia to show what he might do once appreciated. A kind of overseas musical chairs.

Rob Hughes is on the staff of The Times of London. ■ Colombian Joins Parma

1103

¥

Trap ve

The Colombian striker Faustino Asprilla completed his 18 hillion lire (\$10.3 million) move from Newcastle to Parma on Tuesday, signing a contract until the end of the 2000-2001 season, Reuters reported from

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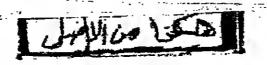
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SPORTS

But Van Horn's Nets Win War of the Rookies Supersonics 114, Rockets laving at home, had the

In a contest featuring the two top rookies in the National Basketball Association, Keith Van Horn put np 30 shots but made only seven against the San Antonio Spurs. Still, the New Jer-

San Antonio Spuis. Stan, and Training Sey Nets came up with a 95-84 victory.

Van Horn had 21 points and 10 re
bile the Spurs' rookie Tim bounds while the Spurs' rookie Tim Duncan, who was the top pick in the last NBA draft, got 24 points and 17 rebounds for the Spurs.

'You can't measure the Rookie of the Year by just one game," Van Horn

NBA ROUNDUP

said. "This one game doesn't constitute a whole season, otherwise a lot of guys would be up for the award. There are a lot of games left to see how it plays out." "I didn't win," Duncan said of the

hyped matchup between the top two NBA draft picks, pointing out the final score. "I knew it was there, and I knew it would be a big deal, but I didn't think it would be this hig of a deal."

Prodded by his coach, John Calipari,

Van Hom shot at every opportunity. He met with little success. But the Nets got help from Kerry Kittles, who scored 19 points, Sam Cassell, who collected 14, and Jayson Williams, who had 10, along

with 18 rebounds. "You'regoing to look at the 30 shots, but let me explain something to you," Calipari said. "Every time he looks at me, what do you think I'm saying?
'Shont the ball. You're here to shoot. Yon're not here to pass. I've got enough passers. I want you to score and passers. 1 want you to score and

J. C. Mr. Van Horn hit his three 3-pointers early in the second quarter as the Nets expanded a 21-19 lead to 35-23.

New Jersey stayed ahead by double digits for most of the rest of the game.

Jayson Williams of the Nets said Van Hom was the best player since Michael Jordan — "so he should be allowed to take 30 shots just like Michael does."

Lakers 92, Magic 89 In Inglewood, California, Shaquille O'Neal had 35 points, 15 rebounds and 7 hlocked shots against his former team, but the Lakers had to struggle for their 30th victory.

The Lakers made only 40.2 percent of their field-goal attempts and missed 12 free throws in 29 tries.

SuperSonics 114, Rockets 80 The Rockets, playing at home, had their most lopsided loss of the season as they went

down for the sixth time in seven games. Charles Barkley was held to 13 points as Houston played without its injured stars, Hakeem Olajnwon and Clyde

The SuperSonics, who improved their record—the best in the NBA—to 32-8, shot 15-of-20 in the third quarter to take an 89-60 lead. Gary Payton finished with 23 points for the Sonics, and Vin Baker had 21 and Vin Baker had 21. Jazz 96, Pistone 89 In Salt Lake City,

Karl Malone had 30 points and 15 re-bounds, and John Stockton had 12 points and 13 assists for Utah, which has won six straight home games and 14 of 15 after starting the season 3-2 in the Delta Center.

Grant Hill finished with 26 points, but missed 12 of 15 shots from the field in the second half.

Hornets 109, Raptors 89 Glen Rice scored 38 points, and Matt Geiger matched his career high with 2g as host Charlotte snapped a three-game losing skid hours after learning they will be without Vlade Divac, their starting center, for at least six weeks.

Divac injured his left knee in a loss to Detroit last week and will undergo surgery to repair cartilage damage.

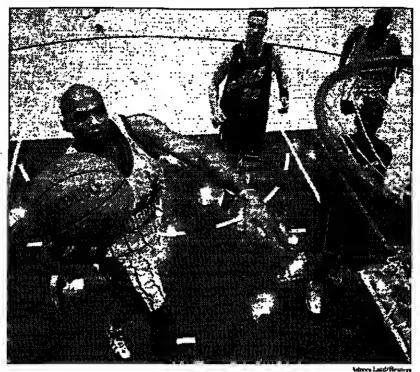
Rice broke ont of a three-game slump by hitting seven of nine 3-point at-

Knicks 98, Ceities 82 New York blew an early a 21-point lead but still extended its winning streak over visiting Boston to 21 consecutive games

Allan Houston and Chris Mills scored 23 points apiece, and New York ended a 15-game stretch of alternating victories

76ers 98, Kings 85 In Philadelphia. the Sixers won their fourth straight as Allen Iverson had 24 points and 10 assists, and Derrick Coleman had 14 points and 14 rebounds. Jim Jackson had 17 points, Mark Davis added 14, and Theo Ratliff got 13 rebounds.

Timberwolves 117, Clippers 109 In Minneapolis, the Timberwolves extended the longest winning streak in franchise history to six games, beating Los Angeles, despite playing their third game in 68 hours. Kevin Garnett had 20 points, 7 rebounds and 3 steals,



The Houston Rockets' Charles Barkley scoring against the Sonics.

Duke Climbs Back to No. 1

The Associated Press

Duke has returned to the top spot in The Associated Press college hasketball poll, while far down the list, Cincinnati has begun its climb back up the rank-

Duke reclaimed the top spot from the team that bumped it out six weeks ago: North Carolina, The Blue Devils (16-1) had been No. 1 for two weeks hefore

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

losing at Michigan. North Carolina (18-1) jumped over the Blue Devils that week and held the top ranking until this week, when they suffered a loss at Maryland on Wednesday.

Cincinnati, which began last season as No. 1, disintegrated as the year went on. Now riding a nine-game winning streak, the Bearcats returned to the Top

25 at No. 21. In games of ranked teams Monday night, the Missouri Tigers upset the third-ranked Kansas Jayhawks for the third straight time at home, 74-73. Tyrou hit two free throws with 11.4 seconds left for Missouri to clinch the victory.

Victories over Kansas (21-3, 5-1 Big 12) were highlights of the past two seasons for Missouri (10-7, 3-3). Last year, the Tigers handed the then topranked Jayhawks their first loss in 23 games, 96-94, and in 1996, Kansas was ranked No. 3 when it lost, 77-73. But those victories were hardly spring-boards to success. Missouri was 16-17 last season and 18-15 in 1995-96.

St. John'e 64, No. 8 Conn Lavor Postell scored all 13 of his points in the second half, including a key 3pointer, as St. John's upset Connecticut at Madison Square Garden,

St. John's (13-6, 5-3 Big East) matched last season's victory total with its fourth straight victory. Felipe Lopez led St. John's with 18 points, while Ricky Moore scored 18 for UConn (16-3, 6-2).

TCU 83, No. 24 Hawaii 76 Malcolm Johnsoo scored 22 points, and Mike Jones had 20 as Texas Christian won at Hawaii. Lee Nailon added 17 points for the Horned Frogs (15-4, 3-0 Western Lee, playing with a dislocated shoulder, Athletic Conference).

Blacks Angrily Ask Why So Few Are NFL Coaches

By Mike Freeman New York Times Service

SAN DIEGO - As Super Bowl XXXII descends on this city, Sherman Lewis, the offensive coordinator of the Green Bay Packers, is trying to keep a low profile. But that's im-

Lewis is at the center of a racially charged and increasingly hitter debate over the way head-coaching vacan-cies are filled in the National Football League. Despite an impeccable ré-sumé that includes Super Bowl rings earned as an assistant with both the San Francisco 49ers and the Packers, Lewis did not get an interview for any of the 11 vacant head-coaching jobs before the regular seasoo.

The question being asked by some of the league's 100 or so black assistant coaches is whether Lewis did not get interviews because he is black. With the 11 changes before the season and two more afterward, in Buffalo and Indianapolis, 13 head coaches have been named in the last two years. almost a 50 percent turnover in the 30-team league. None of the replacements were black.

There are three black head coaches: Tony Dungy in Tampa Bay, Dennis Green in Minnesota and Ray Rhodes in Philadelphia. Oakland and Dallas have head-coaching vacancies.

Angry about those numbers, a small group of black assistants has privately talked about the possibility of filing a class-action discrimination suit against the NFL. They have gone so far as to speak to civil rights lawyers about their chances and options. The chance of filing such a lawsnit, some of these assistants said, was

extremely small. "Right oow," one of them said,
"it's just talk."

The reason, another assistant said, is that a lawsuit could prove to be more detrimental than helpful and that any assistant coach who became part of it would "end up like Curt Flood." Flood, who challenged major league baseball's reserve system in court, was

treated as an outcast by ownership. The second assistant said a discriminatioo suit would set back relations between owners and black

coaches two decades. "I would hope to God something like that would never happen," said Art Modell, owner of the Baltimore Ravens, who have more blacks in the front office and on the coaching staff

than any other NFL team. "You can't make someone hire someone. Frankly, there are some black assistants who say a lot of things but just aren't qualified to be head conches, just like there are white assistants who aren't qualified."

Bob Lamonte, who represents Lewis, said he has heard nothing of such a lawsuit but it would oot surprise him.
"I do know this," he said. "There

was a very strong group of hlack assistants livid over the fact Sherman never got an interview. They are still

The NFL says it is trying hard to make the playing field more level for black assistants. During meetings with a group of black coaches over the last year, Commissioner Paul Tagliabue, as well as several teams' general managers, stressed their commitment to

improve minority-group hiring. NFL officials say the lack of black head coaches hired in the past two years is a matter of experience. Most coaches are hired after being either head coaches in college or coordinators in the pros. There are only a handful of black head coaches in major college football as well as a small oumber of black coordinators in the NFL, eveo though more than 60 percent of the

league's 1,500 players are hlack. But in interviews over the past month, a handful of black assistants made it clear they were tired of the dialogue. The reason there are so few hlack head coaches is racism, they said, not a small talent pool or anything else. And they said that if a black head coach was not hired before next season, drastic action would

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MAJOR COLLEGE SCORES

St. John'S 64, Connecticut 62 Missouri 74, Kansas 73 THE AP TOP 25

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22. Rhode Island 12-3 305 20
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25. Clemson 11-6 120 —
Others receiving votes: Maryland 98, Indiana 92, George Woshington 82, Texas Christian 47, Michigan 51, 38, Vanderbit 25, Tentessee 22, Georgia Tech 17, Oktohoma 15, Marroy 51, 14, Colombi 51, 10, Marsoy 51, 14, Colombi 51, 14, Colombi 51, 10, Marsoy 51, 14, Colombi 51, 10, Marsoy 51, 14, Colombi 51, Murray St. 14, Colorado St. 10, Massinusells 10, Gonzaga & Santa Clara 7, athern Miss. 7, St. Bonaventure 6, Ball St. 5. Doyton 4 Marquette 4 Milom 4 Okiahoma St. 4 Artzona St. 3. Boylor 3, IE-Chicago 2, Utah St. 2, Washington 2, Saint Louis 1, Temple1.

> ICEHOCKEY NHL

SOCCER

SPANISH FIRST DIVISION

Blackborn 44: Chelsen 42: Liverpool 41: Assenol 38: Derty 36: Leeds 35: West Ham 34: Leicester 30: Newcostle. Sheffield Wednesday 29: Southampton 28 etc... PRIEMPLY SOCCER INTE CRICKET

ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE

SRI LANKA BOARD XI VS. ZIMBA ONE DAY MATCH TUESDAY IN COLOMBO

Sri Lanka Board XI: 245-6 (47.1)

TENNIS **AUSTRALIAN OPEN**

TUESDAY IN MELBOURNE

FIRST ROUND SUNY'S STINGLES Wayne Black, Zimb, def, Sreft Steven, M. Zealand, 6-4, 6-2, 6-2. Alberto Berusategui. Sp., def. Karsten Braasch, Ger., 3-4, 6-3, 6-4, 6-3. Andrei Medvedev, Ukr., def. Luke Smith,

ustralia, 6-2, 6-0, 6-2. Dewrif, Belg., 7-5, 6-3, 7-5. Greg Rusedsk (5), Artisin, def. David Witt, U.S., 7-6 (7-4), 6 3, 6-4. Oliver Gross, Gar., del. Marc-Kevin Goeliner, Ger., 7-6 (10-8), 6-4, 6-2.

IN THAT BIG BAY WINDOW IN THE SKY

Ku, S. Africa, 6-3, 6-1, 6-1.

Lionel Ruox, Fr., def. Yoma's Nychol, Swe, 6-3, 7-6 (7-5), 6-3. Todd Mariin, U.S., def. Jovier Sanchez, Sp. 6-1, 6-4, 6-1. Michael Tebbott, Australia, def. Morcean Filippini, Uruguoy, 7-5, 7-5, 6-7 (5-7), 6-4. Druguoy, 7-3, 7-3, 6-7 (5-7), 6-4.
Jonathon, Stute, U.S., def, Carlos Costa, Sp.
6-3, 4-1 refired, Marcelo Rios (9), Chile, def.
Grant Striffard, S. Artica, 6-1, 6-0, 6-3, Franca
Supullari, Argentina, def. Thomas Johansson,
Swe. 6-4, 2-6, 6-3, 6-7 (6-8), 8-6.
Academia He, Australia def.

Swe, 6-4, 2-4, 6-3, 6-7 (6-9), 8-6.
Andrew Ille, Australia, del. Jews Knipp-schild, Gez, 6-4, 6-2, 6-3. David Witcaton, U.S. det Marcella Croca, Gez, 6-4, 3-4, 6-3, 6-3, Julian Alonso, Sp., def. Renzo Furian, 1t, 7-6 (11-9), 6-2, 2-4, 6-2.
Guillaume Raoux, Fr. def. Sandon Stolle, Australia, 2-4, 6-3, 4-4, 6-2, 6-4. Albert Costa (16), Sp., def. Towany Hoos, Gez, 9-6 (7-5), 6-2, 6-4. Karka Alond, Monocco, def. Alex Rodulesco, Gez, 7-4, 6-3, 3-7, 4-3, 4-3.

JL Ger., 7-6 (7-0), 5-7, 6-3, 6-3.

(12), Brazil, def., Jacobo Diaz, Sp., 6-3, 3-6, 6-3, 6-2, Nicolas Kiefer, Ger., def. Mark Oraper, 7-6 (7-4), 7-6 (7-4), 6-7 (4-7), 7-5.

3.6-2. Nichals Kiefer, Ger., Bet., Mark Oraper, Rushrilla, 6-4, 6-4, 6-0. Christophe Van Gursse, Belg., def. Chris-tian Ruod. Norway, 7-6 (7-4), 4-6, 1-6, 6-4, 6-3. Jon Apell. Swe., def. Thomas Muster (8). Austria, 6-4, 7-6, (7-5), 7-S. Jon Stermente, Meth., def. Comp. Involved (13). Eroptil., 4-2. Wolfelm (19), Ger, Jel. Sarah Pilitows-ki. Fr. 5-7, 6-0. 6-0. Dominique Von Roost (14), Belg., def. Rene Simpson, Conada, 6-3, 6-2, Jono Nejedy, Conada, def. Chanda Rushi. U.S. 6-2, 6-4. Austria, 6-4, 7-6, (7-5), 7-5. Jan Slemerint, Neth., def. Gornn Ivanisevic (13), Crootia, 6-2, 7-6 (7-3), 2-6, 6-4.
Nicolas Escude, Fr., def., Magnus Larsson, Swe., 5-7, 4-6, 7-5, 6-1, 10-8. Andrea Gouderal, It., def. Dinu Pescariu, Rom., 6-2, 4-6, 6-2, 6-2. Michael Chang (3), U.S., def. Karneth Cadsan, Den., 6-3, 7-6 (7-3), 5-7, 6-3.
Andre Agossi, U.S., def. Marzio Marielli, It., 3-6, 7-6, 7-3), 6-2, 6-2, Juspin Stotlenberg, Australia, def. Galo Slama, Sp., 6-2, refixed. Richey Reneberg, U.S., def. Marcis Ondrusias, S. Africa, 6-3, 6-1.

bin. U.S., 6-2, 6-4.
Al Sugiyama (16), Japan, def. Maria Sanchez, Lorenzo, Sp., 4-6, 6-1, 6-3. Rika Hiraki, Japan, def. Andrea Gloss, Ger., 6-2, 6-2. Party Schnyder, Switzerland, def. Nathalie Dechy, Fr., 6-1, 6-2.
Janetie Husanova, Slovakia, def. Haruka Inove, Japan, 4-6, 6-4, 7-5. Girgger Heigeton, Melsen, U.S., def. Swittem Krivenkcheva, Sulgaria, 6-3, 7-6 (9-7), Sandrine Testud (9), Fr., def. Leon Garcia, Sp., 6-3, 6-2.

Sulgana, 6-3, 7-0 (Y-1). Suntaine i estua (Y)Fr, def. Leon García, Sp. 6-3, 6-2
Lorisa Nelland, Latvia, def. Catherine Barciay, Australia, 6-3, 7-6 (Y-3). Martina Hingis
(T), Swifterland, def. Withrud Probat, Ger., 61, 6-2. Aransha Sanchez Vicario (T), Sp., def.
Janet Lee, Taivan, 6-0, 6-4
Aransha Eliwood. Australia, def. Kristina
Sransk U.S., 6-4, 5-7, 6-3. Arane Miller, U.S.,
def. Helena Sukova. Crech R., 4-6, 7-5, 6-0.
Tara Snyder, U.S., def. Patricia Hy-Boulais,
Conada. 7-6 (7-6), 6-4.
Yuka Yashida, Jap., def. Meredith McGraff. U.S., 6-1, 6-3. Joennette Kruger, S.
Africa, def. Angelica Garadian, Mcc., 6-0, 2-0
ratirad. Brenda Schultz-McCartiny (11), Neit.,
def. Martion Manuska, Austria, 7-6 (3-6), 7-5.
Lea Gilharuff-Rubi, Fr., def. Nooto Kiljansto, Japan, 1-6, 7-S. 6-1. Sanya Jepaseelan,
Canada, def. Sung-Hee Park, S. Koree, 6-7 (2-7),
6-1, 7-5. Yayuk Basuki, Indonesia, def.
Mellen Tu, U.S., 6-7 (4-7), 6-3, 6-1.
Barbana Rittae, Ger., def. Elena Tatarkovo. Utr., 6-1, 7-6 (7-5). Olga Barabanschilbo-

vo. Utor., 6-1, 7-6 (7-5). Olgo Borok vo. Belarus, def. Deniso Chiadkovo

Denico, U.S., 6-3, 6-1.
Mary Pierre (S). Fr. def. U Fung. China. 6-0.
6-0. Amunda Coetzer (3). S. Africa. def.
Barbam Paulus, Austria, 6-2, 6-0. Kristie
Boogert. Nett., def. Radka Bobkova, Czech
R., 6-3, 6-2. Cristing Torrens-Valens, Sp., def. Olga Lugina, Ukr., 6-4. 6-4. Corina Motoria, U.S., def. Els Callens, Belg., 6-4. 1-6, 6-3.

6-3, 6-3, Anno Kournikova, Rus., def. Kata-rina Studenikova, Slovakla, 6-2, 6-1.
Elena Moharova, Russka, def. Loura Ga-larsa, H., 6-4, 1-6, 6-4. Elena Likhoviseva, Russka, def. Renee Reid, Australia, 6-2, 6-1. Henrieta Nagyova, Slovakla, def. Ann Wun-derlich, U.S., 6-3, 6-1.

TRANSITIONS

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION CHARLOTTE - Scheduled C Viode Divoc fo knee surgery Tuesday that could sideline him for 2 moratis. MEW JERSEY—Signed F Jack Holey and F Xavier McDoniel to their 2d 10-day contracts.

SACRAMENTO—Activated F Michael Smith from injured list. Put C Kevin Salvadori on injured list. CALGARY-Recoiled C Erik Andersson and

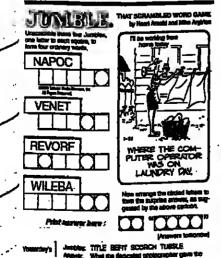
used reserve list. Recoiled LW Juhn Lind from Michigan of the IHL

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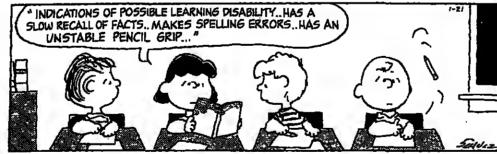
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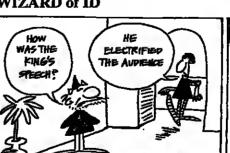








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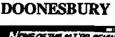






NON SEQUITUR









OBSERVER

The Apartment Heist

By Russell Baker

TEW YORK - The excesses associated with

Nowhere is the grossness of the age more obvious or more loathsome than in New York's real-estate market. This isn't surprising. Real estate is to Clinton Age has done for con-New York what the after-dinner orgy was to Rome.

Nothing lights a fire in the New York eye or makes New York blood pound faster than news of a real-estate desperado extracting the wealth of money's reputation. Once, the Indies from some hapless money was a thing to be recustomer. Nothing makes the spected. Now it's a trivial New Yorker roar with pleasure more surely than a ghoulish tale of compening spartment huoters racing the undertaker over a threshold where the lone occupant of a decent apartment has just wheezed his last.

Such was the stuff that passed for Manhattan dinner conversation even in the notso-good-old days before the new barbarianism burst out of Wall Street. Now that the gutters are awash in money, realestate stories reflect a state of depravity too advanced to be reported that 60 properties expunged by a mere 40 days and 40 nights of rain.

Just last week The New York Times carried a story that must bave repelled every civilized reader. The subject was the rental price of Manhattan bousing for the wellto-do. Landlords are now charging \$25,000 a month for day. These tycoons do not just their fancier digs.

That's not rent, it's a bank Indeed, wby should our tyheist. What's more, this coons wait around? Dawdle doesn't include groceries, car too long and angry Vesuvius insurance, tip money for the may catch you disgracefully doorman, skis for the slopes at Aspen, or the scratch

needed to put the tenant's youthful produce into Mannattan's private schools.

Public school would be Sodom and Gomorrah, the last days of Pompeii and the administration of Ulysses S. Grant are now visible in New York.

Nowhere is the graces of the state of the playground that the youngster's father was paying \$300,000 a year in rent, somebody, possibly the principal, would be tempted to try his skill at kidnapping for ransom. Private schools know

this, and charge accordingly. The great bull market of the spicuons consumption what free agency has done for haseball players. It has made excess a way of life.

In some ways the worst of it is what has happened to thing created with a piece of plastic at an ATM. Anyone nowadays who referred to the dollar as "the iron man" or praised something for being "sound as a dollar" would be considered a lucatic.

Can you still be corrupted by love of money now that money is no longer lovable, but only laughable, like the Ralph Bellamy character too laughable to get the girl?
The Times story on rentals

each fetched more than \$300,000 in rentals last year. One agent, Beatrice Ducrot, told of offering a rental on Central Park West at \$27,000 a month: nine rooms "and a handful of terraces." She had "people lined up, three or four deep. . . . It rented in a wait around," she observed. Indeed, wby should our ty-

long on cash.

New York Times Service

For Israel Philharmonic, Music Barriers Fall

By Emanuel Krasovsky

TEL AVIV — American audiences may have been surprised over the past two weeks to hear the Israel Philharmonic, conducted by Zubin Mehta, play music by Richard Strauss, who was for a time president of the Reich Music Chamber in Hitler's Germany. The orcbestra has included Strauss's "Till Eulenspiegel" in many of the programs on its current U.S. tour celebrating the 50th anniversary of the nation's founding.

As recently as four years ago, the music of Strauss, like that of the openly anti-Semitic Richard Wagner — whose works were used by the Nazis on state occasions - was banned in Israel. These bans received international attention as attempts to introduce Wagner's music, particularly, into the repertory of the

Philharmonic met with vigorous opposition. But while the ban on Wagner still holds, the orchestra has slipped several major works by Strauss into its repertory in the last three years, including the "Sympbonia Domestica," which opened the current subscription season. Though the underlying issues have not lost their ability to inflame the public, "Till Eulenspiegel," whether in America or Israel, is now simply business as usual for the orchestra.

night in 1953 when Jascha Heifetz, on a tour of the five-year old Jewish state, was assaulted on a Jerusalem

street after performing the Strauss Violin Sonata. That incident brought to the fore the continuing debate, starkly intense in this musical country, about the public performance of works by Strauss and Wagner.

Should they be a part of cultural life in Israel, as they are elsewhere? Is artistic merit the only criterion, or should

humanitarian concerns matter more? Doesn't a ban; official or otherwise, resemble the methods practiced by the Nazis themselves? Is such a ban a frustrated expression of helplessness or a symbol of remembrance: a legitimate reaction by a people against those who strove to destroy it?

Forty-five years later, even as some of the works in question have found their way to Israel's concert stages, the issue retains its cutting edge and remains grist for public protests and newspaper editorials. But it is worth recalling that Wagner's music played a prominent role at the dawn of professional cultural life here. In 1938, when Arturo Toscanini conducted the Palestine Orchestra (now the Israel Philharmonic) — a body assembled from European refugees by the violinist Bronislaw Huberman — the program included excerpts from 'Lohengrin.' Toscanini was boycotting the Wagner shrine in Bayreuth, Germany, at the time, and his visit to Palestine was as much an act of solidarity with the dispossessed Jewish musicians as a protest against the Third Reich.



This is all a far cry from the balmy April Zubin Mebta wants to do Wagner with the Israel Philharmonic.

Jascha Horenstein led the "Taunhauser" Overture a few months later, and the "Meistersinger" Prelude was to open the next season. But that performance never took place. As rehearsals began, news of the Kristallnacht in Germany reached Tel Aviv. "On Saturday evening, an unscheduled rehearsal was called before the concert," Uri Toeplitz, the orchestra's principal flutist from its inception to 1971, said recently. "The management announced that the Wagner would be replaced with the 'Oberon' Overture by Weber."

Strauss, meanwhile, had dropped out of sight more quietly. "In our first season, in 1936, Issay Dobrowen proposed to conduct a Strauss work," Toeplitz said. "Huberman, in a letter, refused firmly: No work by a president of the Reich music bureau is welcome."

Like the Philharmonic, the state broadcasting authority and its Jerusalem Symphony ignored those composers and also performers active in the Third Reich, like Wilhelm vangler, Herbert von Karajan, Elisabeth Schwarzkopf. Walter Gieseking and Wilhelm Kempff.

Heifetz, invoking the principle of artistic freedom in 1953, was unable to effect change despite his near legendary

But soul-searching cootinued. Was Israel unwittingly borrowing a page from the book of those who had banned Rubin Academy of Mu Mendelssohn in Germany? Didn't the boycott of Wagner The New York Times.

and Strauss confer on them a distinction of sorts? Why should their music be viewed differently from, say, works of Chopin, Mussorgsky, Liszt and Honegger, or books by Gogol and Dostoyevsky, whose anti-Semitism was a matter of record?

In 1966, after the establishment of full diplomatic relations with West Germany, the

rael Philharmonic management decided to lift the ban on Wagner and Strauss. An emo-tional outburst followed, and the retreat was hasty. At a special meeting of the Philhar-monic board, Mebia spoke of Wagner's place in the history of Western music and the importance of performing his works for the orchestra's professional growth. To no avail: The management decision was scrapped.

In 1981, the Philharmonic and Mehta, by then its music director, adopted a different strategy: At the end of a concert, the "Liebestod" from Wagner's "Tristan und Isolde" would be presented as an encore. Audience members who did not care to listen could leave. Two players opposed the decision and refused to take part. At the concert, pandemonium broke out. A shaken Mehta left the podium in midphrase. The performance collapsed.

'I do not respect Wagner at all as a human "I do not respect Wagner at all as a human being, but I cannot stay away from his music," Mehia said recently. "In fact, I have an obsessive love for it. When my musicians finally play "Tristan," they will instinctively understand so much more of what came after, because musically we are eating the fruit of the Wagner tree, but we do not see the tree. My frustration is that because of this love I have for the man's creativity, I cannot play his music with my favorite orchestra."

with my favorite orchestra."

At the time, Mehta was accused of insensitivity. But the musical community rose quickly to his defense, and the Israel Philharmonic named him music director for life.

On another front, Avi Hanani, who took over the music department of the state radio in Jerusalem in 1982, lifted the a on composers. "Mind you, we held no festival for Richard Strauss but went on exploring his work step by step." Hanani said. A couple of years later, Wagner's turn came. "To those who expressed reservations, I explained we were not clearing anybody's name." Hanani said. "But it is our

duty in a democracy to assure free access to information." Today, even as the controversy has narrowed to Wagner alone, attitudes differ and tensions smolder. When the or-chestra decided to play Strauss, Shmuel Schnitzer, formerly the chief editor of Maariv, canceled his Philharmonic sub-scription of long standing. "For 60 years it was possible to do without this music." he said. "Did anything change now?"

Emanuel Krasovsky, who is on the faculty of the Samuci Rubin Academy of Music at Tel Aviv University, wrote this for

PARIS FASHION

Chanel and Lacroix Are Tripping the Light Fantastic

By Suzy Menkes International Herald Tribune

ARIS — Karl Lagerfeld leaped back into Coco's embrace, and the mion between the powerful de-signer and the eternal Mademoiselle bas never looked so fruitful as at Tuesday's Chanel show.
As a model stood on the salon

stairway, in a tiny jacket and flaring skirt, worn insouciantly with high heels, a cluster of iewels and diamond teardrops on cheeks and on the tulle hair net, the Coco was reincarnated.

"I had to - this is her house and you can't do here the kind of spectacle show I have done in the past," Lagerfeld said.

He was referring to staging the show at the Rue Cambon salon. where client Nan Kempner reminisced how Coco was crouching on the stairs when she came to buy a going-away outfit in 1952. Susan Gutfreund also remembered her first visit at age 16. Their take on the new show? In unison, a gasp of joy and one word: "dazzling."
And so it was — not in a razzle-

dazzle way, but in the elegance, refinement and apparent simplicity that was, as the clieot Co-

rinne Ricard said, "light as a breeze. It was also devilishly clever. Because things that seemed so throw-away simple - say the swingy little knit skirt - turned out to be traced in tiny beads on tulle. Or a white silk wave-patterned jacket, where the threads were hand-braided to end in a fringe at the hips.

Apart from clunky diamonds that struck a heavy note above slithering evening dresses, the col-lection was faultless. And those dresses, cut from a single piece of satin that broke like a wave over an underdress, were a conture moment when the com-

The show started by making a new flared kneelength skirt look adorable, and the new wrapped jacket or elongated cardigan its ideal partners. For the day wear, the diamond feather pins mixed in a rubble of faux pearls updated exactly ragged turts: Mustardseed pluthe Chanel style. So did barely-there evening turning it into a dainty purse.



Chanel's slithery double dress, left, and Lacroix's fairy-light gown.

dresses, either layered in black, or white but shimmering with paillettes or silver embroideries.

Also magical was the link between past and future, as the small heads in their tulle skullcaps bobbed above linear 1920s-style dresses. Even the embroideries seemed modern when flower petals were scattered like confetti. By the time the bride flipped her tulle train down the stairwell as Lager-

feld took his bow, the audience was cheering.

The actress Charlotte Rampling surround up the magic that only Lagerfeld seems to be able to capture in couture: "So timeless but catching other

Christian Lacroix was in Fairyland. In his Midsummer Night's Dream, there was Titania being dressed by her fairies: Cobweb painting tulle dawn pink and pale blue; Peasblossom snipping it into ragged turts: Mustardseed plucking a bluebell and

The result was pure enchantment - fashion as light and gauzy as the Victorian fairy paintings that had inspired the show. But this was not the theater-loving countrier sending out costumes to Tinkerbell music on the dappled runway.

Sweet sighs from the audience summed up the mood: If you could find some place to go in these eth-ereal dresses, you would snatch them off the models' backs, grab their flower-patterned shoes and curling feather headdresses in

It takes a lot to turn a romantic for the first time since 1989 at fantasy into runway reality, and in the fourth annual U.S. Comthis show Lacroix surpassed himself. Given that you accept him as a decorator in the light-handed French tradition that produced Rococo and the Parisian patissier, you could not ask for a more vivid imagination, more delicate handwork nor more succulent mixes of color, tone and fabric.

Behind the magic, there was a structure: curving jackets over the little dresses that opened the show; evening dresses corseted or sculpted to nestle on the bosom. But on them went dewdrop beads, scattered flowers like fallen stars, a cumulus of tulle sleeves or buttons

shaped into roses. Sometimes Lacroix would reduce his fancy confections to a sleek coatdress in white guipure lace, or a column of rumpled tulle. Alternatively, a coat was in mul-

ticolored tulle pieces like a bird of paradise. For the colors, think lilac, sugared-almond pink, faded-bydrangea blues and sudden dragonfly-wing flashes of green or fritillary yellow. The jewels were delicate, translucent and fairy-like.

But why fairies? "Just because we live in a period when there is not much enchantment around," said Lacroix as he took the backstage bravos.

Far from Fairyland was the collection of linear dresses with twists of draping in Josephus Melchios Thimister's show - although he too used tulle folded to give decorative effects without embellishment. For a ready-to-wear collection, the Dutcbborn designer showed clean, modern clothes, but they were hard to read as new-generation couture.

PEOPLE

THE 1998 Polar Music Prize was awarded Tuesday to the Indian sitarist and composer Ravi Shankar and the American soul legend Ray Charles, Shankar, 77, was honored as a musical bridge-builder between East and West, and Charles, 67, was hailed for influencing generations of singers and musicians. The winners will receive · 1 million kronor (\$125,000) each at the prize ceremony in Stockholm on

The surviving members of Monty Python will reunite

ive and a tribute to John

Brigitte Bardot, the French film star turned animal rights campaigner, was fined Tuesday for comments she made about the Islamic ritual of slaughtering sheep. A Paris court fined her 20,000 francs (\$3,250) for racial slurs and inciting racial hatred. Another court had fined Bardot 10,000 francs last October for the same offense.

ham Chapman, who died in 1989.

A spokes woman for Elizabeth Hurley said the rumor that the actress-model has a new beau is "completely ridiculous" and that she and Hugh Grant are still together. The New York Post, citing sources it didn't identi-fy, had said the British community in Hollywood was buzzing about a romance be-tween Hurley and Lord John Somerset, a free-lance record producer who is separated from his wife. Hurley and Grant are in New York filming the romantic comedy "Mickey Blue Eyes," which Hurley is producing.

Ewan McGregor stars as Nick Leeson in "Rogue Trader," a movie based on the im-prisoned trader's book. Leeson's nearly \$1.38



edy Arts Festival in Aspen, STAR WASH - The actor Christian Slater washing a Colorado, in March. The fes- police car at the La Verne, California, jail, where he is tival will feature a retrospect- serving a 90-day sentence for attacking his girlfriend.

Cleese, Terry Gilliam, Eric Idle, Terry
Jones and Michael Palin as well as to Graand-a-half-year term in prison in Singapore.

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Pat Boone has received the inaugural Michael the Archangel Award from the National Association of Chiefs of Police. The group bas for two years sent families of slain officers a message of consolation that includes a tape of Boone's songs about officers injured or killed in the line of duty. Boone said that after civil disturbances in the 1960s and 1970s, he wrote "Won't Be Home Tonight," about an officer killed in a drug bust. "I wanted to humanize the police." Boone said. "I wanted these songs to be played on the radio, to counteract the thinking that law enforcement is our enemy."

The lobby of a new building on Rupert Murdoch's 20th Century-Fox lot in Los Angeles features a 36-foot-high (11-meter) mural of the media mogul's fingerprint — specifically the index finger of his right hand. 'It's a version of the portrait of the leader that you might see in the lobby of an old office building," the artist, Tony Berlant, said in The New Yorker. "You might say he's pointing the way." The mural has 10 panels, each made of dozens of pieces of tin cut into abstract prisoned trader's book. Lesson's nearly \$1.38 shapes, nailed to a wooden backing and billion in losses led to the 1995 collapse of painted in colors of the California landscape.



Dominique de Menil devoted herself to putting the city on the art map.

Dominique de Menil's Thanks to Houston: She Said It With Art

By Sam Howe Verhovek New York Times Service

HOUSTON — Dominique de Menil died on the last day of 1997, at the age of 89, and in the days since there has been a steady outpouring of tributes and fond remembrances of this remarkable art collector and philanthropist, a frail woman with the strongest of wills whom Peter Marzio, the director of the Museum of Fine Arts in Houston, describes simply as "the single greatest cultural force in the history of Houston."

She has been equally celebrated for the influence that she and her husband, John, had on the politics of the city. It began with their very early, very public support of a pro-integration slate of candidates for the school board in the 1960s - not that de Menil ever really bothered to separate her feelings about politics

"She had a double passion for truth and beauty, and for human dignity and freedom," said the Reverend Helen M. Havens, rector of St. Stepheo's Episcopal Church, in a sermon a few days after she died. "She held together her passions for the arts and for liberty. To her, they were two sides of the same coin." De Menil once wrote, in the preface to a book about the Rothko Chapel she built in Houston: "Through art, God constantly clears a path to our bearts."

With the human rights foundation she established with former President Jimmy Carter, de Menil was also widely remembered for attracting international dig-nituries to Houston, like the Dalai Larna and Nelson Mandela. And people recalled the flair she had for attracting famous artists to the city, including the painter Rene Magritte, whom she once famously brought to the local rodeo.

A recurring theme of these tributes has been gratitude and not a little wonder that after the Paris-born de Menil fled Nazi-occupied France and arrived here in

1941, Houston remained her home. She built up the 15,000-piece Menil Collection, an eclectic assemblage that ranges from antiquities and the Byzantine period to tribal art from the Pacific Northwest to 20th-century artists like Picasso, Calder and Warhol. The Menil holdings are routinely described as one of the greatest private art collections in the world, and she was wooed by officials in Paris, New York and elsewhere to move it all someplace else. But it remained in Houston, and all of it is open to the public free in a building that was designed by the Italian architect Renzo Piano, an elegant combination of wood, steel and glass.

Nearby are two striking pieces of architecture in the form of noodenominational chapels, also open to the public. One has a series of Rothko paintings and the there already," Winkler recalled.

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other 13th-century Byzantine frescoes from Cyprus. She and her husband supported dozens of other artistic endeavors, including the Museum of Fine Arts and several large exhibitions devoted to work by black

Why Houston? The decision to come to what was then a complete cultural ontback had absolutely nothing to do with art. Her family fortune came from the Schlumberger oil-field services, and Houston was where the action was. But long after she inherited the fortune, she and her husband could have easily moved. and they never did, even as the five children in this artoriented family all gravitated to New York City. Instead they devoted themselves to putting Houston

on the art map. "They really created this notion that Houston didn't have to be a backwater," Marzio said, "that there was this potential, particularly with all the wealth that was growing here, for Houston to become an important

cultural center. Paul Winkler, the director of the Menil Collection, recalled that de Menil once joked that the lack of great culture she and ber husband encountered in 1940s Houston actually was a great inspiration. "She said: 'If I had remained in Paris, I probably never would have been such a collector. There's so much culture

